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DEPUTY PREMIER BEKTESHI ON 1983 ACHIEVEMENTS

AU040951 Tirana ATA in English 0730 GMT 4 Jan 84

["Other Steps on the Road to Socialism" -- ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, January 4 ATA -- Under the above title the newspaper ZERI I POPULLIT publishes an article written by Besnik Bekteshi, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PLA [Party of Labor of Albania] and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers which says among others that our people, under the leadership of our glorious party with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, turned 1983 into a year of successes in all the fields of life. Hence, the total industrial production and the agricultural one in 1983 as against 1982 rose 3 and 9 per cent respectively. Scores of new projects were constructed and commissioned. New coal, copper and chrome mines were opened, the factory of tar-lined paper was set up, the copper upgrading factories and many lines of light and food stuff industry and as well as some new livestock complexes were constructed. A considerable area of land was put under irrigation, Shkodra-Bajza railway line and 10,500 new dwelling flats were built, etc. Work went on at fast rates in "Enver Hoxha" hydro-power station in Koman, in the lubricant oils plant in Ballsh, the extension of the superphosphate factory in Lac and tens of other projects will be commissioned during the coming years of this five year plan.

In the face of the allround crisis that has gripped the capitalist and revisionist world, the successes scored in 1983 in Albania in regard to the production of coal, copper, steel, machineries, bread grain the high yields in wheat, olive, sun flower, fruits, etc, come to the fore.

The development of the productive forces and the harmonisation of this development with the perfection of the socialist relations in production brought about the further increase of the wellbeing of the working masses. The real income per capita of the population rose over 4 per cent. The increase of the purchasing power of the people brought about the growth of the goods turnover by 6 per cent. Other steps were made in the development of education, culture, health service. An important measure was the latest price reduction of the drugs.

These achievements make our socialist economy a powerful one and with great perspectives. By forcefully relying on its own forces, it does not know the grave and incurable wounds of capitalism such as inflation, crisis, unemployment, etc.

Socialist Albania is the sole country in the world without debts and it has attained to cover import with export. This happens because Albania is the country where private property and the exploitation of man by man have been done away with, the country where the life giving lessons of Marxism-Leninism are applied in a creative way, the country with the most advanced social order in the world.

The tasks of the plan of 1984, Comrade Besnik Bekteshi writes further on, open new still greater prospects to the economic-cultural development of the country. The industrial and agricultural production in 1984, as against 1983, will increase 8.5 and 14.7 per cent.

The work will go on in 280 economic and social cultural objects, more than half of which will conclude within this year. New mines, plants, factories and lines will be commissioned. The Fier-Vlore railway line as well as many branches which link the industrial and agricultural centers will be added to our railway network. The year 1984 is also the year of a broad study and scientific work in working out the coming five-year plan.

The fast rate development of economy and culture during the current year is expressed in the fact that the increase of total social production and the national income are twice larger than the average of the three years of this five year plan. At the same time these rates are two-four times higher than the rate of the growth of population. These rates and proportions guarantee the employment of all the new able bodied forces, the further increase of the material and cultural level of the working masses, the strengthening of the defence of the country and the steeling of our socialist order.

The Albanian working people Comrade Besnik Bekteshi writes in conclusion, will turn the year 1984, the year of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution into a year of action on all the fronts, in economy, education, culture, in the field of education and defence, to apply completely the historic decisions of the 8th congress of the party, the life giving lessons of Comrade Enver Hoxha.

U.S. WANTS ALLIES' 'COMPLETE OBEDIENCE'

AU041152 Tirana ATA in English 0900 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Tirana, January 4 ATA -- The American-West European relations are distinguished today for two tendencies which run counter to each other. The USA seeks to preserve and strengthen its leadership on the partners over the Atlantic, whereas its West European allies always counterpoise it, preventing the further penetration of American capitals in the economy of the West European countries. The double tendency in the relations between Washington and these countries is manifested in three main aspects: political, economic and military.

The U.S. imperialists in rivalry with the Soviet socialimperialists to further expand their domination and hegemony in the European continent, are ever more engaged in the road for a new world war, which would, first of all, affect Europe. In this context, the USA wants complete obedience and subjugation on the part of those who are considered partners today and tomorrow will, perhaps, be the first victims of the American militarist and warmongering policy. The stationing of the American "cruise" and "Pershing 2" missiles in some West European countries is a new means of dictate and control over the West European allies.

U.S. imperialism has worked and works that West Europe follow the dance in the context of its global strategy for the domination of the world. But the interests of the Americans are not the same with those of the West Europeans in various regions and different international questions. Under the pretext of the Soviet threat, Washington seeks from its partners in Europe a greater engagement for the account of its rivalry with Moscow. But the West Europeans do not want to burn the bridges with the Soviet socialimperialists, because they have economic profit-making links and feel their military inferiority with them despite of the fact that they are protected under the American umbrella.

The economic aspect gives Washington the possibility to dictate over the allies, in some main indices, U.S. capital not only has not known withdrawals, but it has continuously increased its presence in the continent. The direct investments of U.S. capitals in Europe cover now 45-50 per cent of all the quantity of direct capital investments outside the USA, when it is known that in 1950 they were only 14.7 per cent. The dictate of Washington finds its expression in the field of trade exchanges, too, in the efforts of U.S. capital to occupy West European markets and to bar the way to the penetration in the American inner market of the partners' goods.

The relations between the USA and the countries of West Europe are relations between imperialist powers. As such, they cannot be developed otherwise but on the road of the fierce competitive struggle, for the domination of the weakest by the strongest. The actual situation of these relations promises nothing but aggravations and greater differences in the future.

BASHKIMI ON MISSILES, U.S.-USSR 'DEMAGOGY'

AU031011 Tirana ATA in English 0930 GMT 3 Jan 83

["Nuclear Missiles in the New Year Evening" -- ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, January 3 ATA -- Under the above title, the newspaper BASHKIMI carries an article which says among the other things:

On December 31, at midnight, the assembly of the first 16 U.S. nuclear "cruise" missiles concluded in Greenham Common base, in Britain. These missiles, the spokesman of the British Government declared, "are practically ready to act". 114 other missiles will be deployed in the British territory. On that day, too, the minister of defence of the FRG, declared that the first battery of "Pershing 2" missiles is ready to act, "in case it is ordered to." 106 missiles of this kind will be deployed. The Belgian Government in Brussels approved the decision according to which 48 "cruise" missiles will be deployed. On the eve of the new year, the Soviet social imperialists conducted another nuclear explosion in the Soviet nuclear shooting ground in Semipalatinsk.

The superpowers and those who have accepted the missiles in their territory, the article says further on, are committing a grave crime to the peace and security, to their countries, consequently to the other countries too who have opposed the deployment of the missiles and bases. They brutally challenged the sound European opinion who through powerful demonstrations expresses its resolute opposition to the deployment of the U.S. and Soviet missiles and the Soviet and U.S. presence.

The two superpowers claim that they do such things for the "security of Europe." They are transforming the continent into a great arsenal of mass extermination weapons in service of their plans to make the law in the world. The course of war of the two superpowers has indicated to the peoples that the Soviet-U.S. presence, their military economic and financial dictate, the participation in NATO and Warsaw Treaty, have nothing in common with the peace and security of the European countries.

Further on the article points out that Shultz and Gromyko will meet in Stockholm on January 18. These bargains are a new testimony to the fact that U.S. imperialism and Soviet social imperialism constantly [word indistinct] meetings between each other.

Besides the demagogy and attempts of these warmongers to prove that they are allegedly for disarmament, the two superpowers make use of the conferences such as those of Geneva, Vienna, Madrid and Stockholm to coordinate their counterrevolutionary activity, against peace and mankind. They want to show to the peoples that the super big take care of the destiny of the world, that the Soviets and Americans make the law, while the others have to obey and wait folded arms until the big bind them with shackles.

The articles says in conclusion: Through their resolute struggle against the American and Soviet missiles, bases and troops, the peoples of different European countries show that they are becoming more and more conscious that only the resolute opposition towards the two superpowers, the liquidation of the military blocs and the dismantling of the atomic weapons and foreign troops may guarantee peace in Europe.

ZHIVKOV NEW YEAR GREETINGS ADDRESS TO PEOPLE

AU041648 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 1 Jan 84 p 1

["New Year's Greeting Address to the Bulgarian People" delivered by Todor Zhivkov, BCP secretary general and chairman of the State Council, over Bulgarian radio and television on 31 December 1983]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, dear compatriots:

Once again, on the eve of the New Year, we are leaving the year that has elapsed and are greeting the New Year filled with confidence and hope for peace, good health, successes, and happiness.

The year that has ended, 1983, will remain in our history a year of success for the revolutionary and peaceloving forces. The countries where real socialism exists have achieved considerable new successes. The power and the cohesion of the international communist and workers movement, of the national liberation forces have strengthened. The open confrontation between the forces which are pushing the world toward war and disaster and the forces of peace and life has produced an antiwar movement which is unprecedented in scope and strength. This movement has rallied tens of millions of people in its ranks and -- regardless of differences in nationality, class, religious faith, political views, and party affiliations of the masses participating in it -- this movement objectively and specifically represents a powerful anti-imperialist movement and alliance of forces which are most consistently struggling for peace in the world and for the peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems.

The celebration of the anniversary of Karl Marx -- the founder of scientific socialism, the giant of thought and of our cause -- was an impressive demonstration of the vital strength and all-victorious power of Marxism-Leninism. The firm resolve of the socialist states not to tolerate any violation of the balance of forces and to persist in their efforts to prevent war, on the one hand, and the powerful peace movement, on the other, a movement which has involved the broadest people's strata in the capitalist countries -- these are the characteristic traits of the world situation in 1983 and they justify our optimism regarding 1984.

Ninteen eighty-three was the third, decisively important year of our Eighth 5-Year Plan period. Despite the difficult international situation, despite the hardships and the shortcomings we have allowed to occur, we have successfully fulfilled the basic indexes of our socioeconomic plan. Social labor productivity and our national income have increased at stable rates. Our science, culture, education, and sports have achieved new successes. We were able to better satisfy the material, social, and cultural needs of our people. Prerequisites have been created for new measures aimed at improving the working people's living standard in 1984.

Through our creative elaborations on theoretical and practical problems stemming from the programmatic goals and tasks assigned by the 12th BCP Congress we were able to intensify and specify our ideas about the laws, methods, and means in further building developed socialism. At the same time, we have taken a large step forward in implementing the trend toward the intensification of the national economy and we are about to resolve the crucial problem -- namely the improvement of production quality and labor quality in all places and in all matters.

The atmosphere reigning in our country is bright, optimistic, and filled with the dynamic strength of the people's creative labor, filled with trust in the party as our leader, filled with unshakable confidence in our bright, communist future.

At this solemn hour, I express on behalf of the BCP Central Committee, the State Council, and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, my most heartfelt and ardent gratitude to the millions of indefatigable toilers in all fields of our economic and public life, for their patriotism, for their sense of responsibility, for their cohesion around the party and for their invaluable contribution to the construction of our dear motherland's power, prosperity, and glory!

Comrades, as is known the deployment of American medium-range missiles began toward the end of 1983 on the territory of Great Britain, the FRG, and Italy. Our approach to this fact is well-known. Our reaction has been expressed with particular clarity and conviction in the declaration issued by Comrade Yuriy Andropov. The general line of policy represented by the socialist community in international politics is a line of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems. We are optimistic. We are convinced that in not permitting imperialism to disrupt the balance of forces to its own advantage and in persisting in our efforts in the sectors of politics, diplomacy, and in developing manysided relations among peoples -- from trade to sports -- we will foil the intentions of the enemies of peace. Mankind has only one method of rescue, of survival, and upsurge --this is the method of proceeding along the path of peace. The peoples and their soberly thinking politicial and state leaders are increasingly becoming aware of this fact.

The main trend of the foreign policy pursued by the People's Republic of Bulgaria always has been and still is the trend of further consolidating peace and socialism, the trend of unity, cohesion, friendship, and cooperation with the CEMA member-countries and Warsaw Pact member-states. Our fraternal links with the Soviet Union are unshakable and we wholeheartedly believe in the CPSU, in the Soviet state, and in the Soviet people. We are proud of their trust in us and we are convinced that the great path of Bulgaria toward the future is the path along which we have confidently been proceeding for the last 40 years -- the path along which we are proceeding loyally side by side with the USSR.

Socialist Bulgaria also will continue in the future to conduct a policy of sincerely outstretched hands toward all those who are striving for peace and cooperation in this troubled world. As to our part of the world we can state with satisfaction that the situation here is calm and that relations among our states are based on good-neighborliness, that the trend toward the transformation of the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone and into a zone of lasting peace and cooperation is obvious. The positive role played by socialist Bulgaria, which our country continues to play in creating this atmosphere, is recognized by numerous countries in our area and far away.

Dear compatriots, the forthcoming year, 1984, will be the year of the national party conference in our country. This conference will discuss the problems of quality, labor productivity, and effective utilization of material resources. This will be a year of new achievements in all sectors of life. In 1984 we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the 9 September 1944 socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

Our grateful people will once more pay their tribute to the heroes who courageously proceeded along the path of struggle and devoted their efforts and lives to victory. Once more we will glorify the great deeds of the generations of builders who, day after day, year after year, decade after decade devoted their dreams, their inspiration, and their efforts to the foundations and to the construction of socialist Bulgaria, of this Bulgaria to which we are attached with filial devotion, which we love and which we are proud of. Once again, satisfied with the achievements assessed, we will pledge to proceed with new efforts toward new achievements.

Comrades, workers, peasants, scientists, educational and cultural workers, women, and youths, Komsomol members and Pioneers, soldiers of the People's Army, members of the Ministry of Interior and of our construction, transportation, and engineering forces, all of you who are living and working for the prosperity of our motherland, for the people's happiness, for the triumph of communism, permit me most sincerely to congratulate you on the incoming New Year 1984. May this year bring us peace and prosperity, successes in your work and studies, vigorous health and personal happiness to all of you, to all of us!

To you, to Bulgaria, and to the fraternal socialist countries, as well as to all mankind, I wish a happy New Year 1984!

FILIPOV TO VISIT SRV, KAMPUCHEA, LAOS

AU041811 Sofia BTA in English 1734 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Sofia, Jan 4 (BTA) -- Mr Grisha Filipov, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, will pay an official and friendly visit to Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos as head of a governmental delegation in the second half of January 1984, at the invitation of Mr Pham Van Dong, member of the Politburo of the CC of the Vietnam Communist Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, of Mr Chan Si, member of the Politburo of the CC of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and Mr Kaysone Phomvihan, secretary general of the CC of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

PEACE MOVEMENT CONFERENCE OPENS IN GABROVO

AU041622 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] A national conference of peace movement supporters in Bulgaria opened in Gabrovo today and will last 2 days.

Georgi Dimitrov-Goshkin, chairman of the National Peace Committee, delivered an address in which he described the peace-loving policy conducted by the BCP and by our government. The basic report devoted to the subject of propaganda and ideological work in the struggle for peace dealt with the forthcoming tasks of the Bulgarian peace movement and with the problems of the international situation in this context.

In reporting on this conference, Moscow radio pointed out that the antiwar and anti-missile movement in Bulgaria, as well as in the other countries of the socialist community, is making its own, specific contribution to the settlement of the important problem of our time -- namely rescuing mankind from nuclear disaster.

ANTIMISSILE PROTESTOR SENTENCED TO 6 YEARS

PM041101 Brussels LE SOIR in French 27 Dec 83 p 3

["P. ML." report: "Opposition to Deployment of Euromissiles in Czechoslovakia"]

[Text] The Soviet SS-20 missiles have not yet been deployed in Czechoslovakia, at least not officially, but they have already claimed their first victims. The heaviest sentence in a decade has just been passed in Prague, where Mr Jiri Wolf has been sentenced to 6 years imprisonment for "subversion" and "disclosure of secrets."

Mr Wolf, a 31-year old worker and Charter 77 member, is a recidivist (he was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment back in 1978), and this time he has been severely punished especially for his action in the framework of the unofficial pacifist movement opposed to the deployment of the Soviet missiles in Czechoslovakia planned as part of Moscow's response to the deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

The sentencing of Mr Wolf coincides with increased police violence toward independent pacifists, and the severity of the sentence must be a warning to all those who would like to imitate him. Despite the repression of the dissidents on the one hand and their weakness on the other, the independent pacifist movement seems to have spread somewhat recently.

The "Free Trade Unions' Preparatory Committee" (inspired by the Polish Solidarity trade union) has sent an open letter to the Official Trade Unions (ROH) to demand a referendum by secret ballot under international control in all countries in which Euromissiles are to be deployed, but especially in Czechoslovakia. The letter criticizes the ROH in particular for declaring its "full support" for the government agreement for the deployment of the Soviet missiles in Czechoslovakia. "Such an important question," the letter states, "ought not to be decided by a group of politicians." The committee reports the "huge financial, material, and human costs which the country must pay" for the missile sites and for the "tens of thousands of apartments which we must place the disposal of the Soviet military personnel."

In addition it has been announced that the employees of the Geofizyka enterprise in Prague, who have never had links with the dissident movement, and especially not with Charter 77, have signed a petition against nuclear arms in Czechoslovakia. Despite police pressure, some have refused to withdraw their signatures. Another text hostile to the missiles was issued by the CKD factory -- and old Communist stronghold in Prague -- and yet another is circulating in Moravia.

All these texts, which would be regarded as perfectly harmless in the West, are a real challenge in Czechoslovakia. The authorities state that 7 million of the 15 million citizens have shown their support for the deployment of the SS-20 missiles, while the CPCZ has decreed that "nobody can be neutral in this struggle" and that "everybody must show on what side of the barricade he is standing."

There were three major roundups last month aimed, according to the police, at preventing those on the other side of the barricade from "endangering the country's defense capability" -- a crime which carries a 10-year prison sentence. In this context Mr Wolf's 6-year sentence looks like a gesture of "clemency..."

HUSAK ASKS AFRICAN LEADERS TO HELP FREE HOSTAGES

LD021721 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1700 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Text] As a part of the diplomatic effort for the release of 20 Czechoslovak citizens illegaly held by the UNITA [National Union for Total Independence of Angola] organization in Angola, in the last few days Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic, has appealed with personal messages to the president of the Republic of Tunisia, Habib Bourguiba; the president of the Republic of Zambia, Kenneth David Kaunda: and the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam, who is also the chairman of the OAU.

In his messages Comrade Gustav Husak asked these important African statesmen for further help and cooperation aiming at a speedy return of our citizens to Czechoslovakia.

The above-stated representatives expressed their full understanding of this effort and promised their support.

WHOLESALE ENERGY, AGRICULTURAL PRICES INCREASED

Retail Prices Unchanged

LD041525 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1430 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Some wholesale prices were adjusted at the beginning of this year. The prices of fuel, energy, and some agricultural products for the food industry have been increased. Regarding some other raw materials, there have been movements in both directions: For example, the prices of bauxite, aluminium, flax, and hemp have been increased, while there have been cuts in the prices of copper concentrate, molybdenum, and tungsten.

Federal Price Office Minister Michal Sabolcik informed Prague journalists today that these alterations -- which in no way affect retail prices -- have resulted from the growth in costs connected with obtaining domestic and imported raw materials.

Minister Sabolcik on Increases

LD042201 Prague CTK in English 1630 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Prague -- The rise in wholesale prices of fuels, energy and some raw materials, which came into effect in Czechoslovakia on January 1, 1984, is aimed at increasing economy, pressing enterprises to faster introduction of new products and forcing them to consider new investments with greater responsibility than so far.

Making this statement at a press conference here Wednesday, Minister in Charge of the Federal Price Office Michal Sabolcik said the government decision on the price rise applies only to wholesale prices, i.e. prices of products, work and services in the supplier-consumer relationship between socialist enterprises, and does not affect retail prices.

Minister Sabolcik stressed that in the system of planned economic management in Czechsolovakia, prices have the main task to provide real criteria and effective stimuli for intensification and raising economic effectiveness and this is also the purpose of the present rise.

The rise applies above all to the wholesale prices of primary sources of fuels and energy, and was called forth by the growing costs of obtaining them through imports and at home. The wholesale price of coking coal rose by 24 percent, coal for power plants by 21 percent, oil by 49.5 percent, natural gas by 53-63 percent, electrcity by 7 percent.

Also raised were the purchasing prices of farm products, particularly sugar beet, milk, cereals and meat, and at the same time subsidies to agricultural enterprises for purchasing prices were discontinued. The general wholesale price level increased by 6.4 percent.

Enterprises must cushion up to a quarter the impact of raised wholesale prices by higher economy in consumption, and by reducing excessive profits they were so far earning from some kinds of production. In view of this factor, the wholesale prices of final products will increase by only 4.1 percent on average, prices of supplies for personal consumption only by 3.1 percent. Retail prices remain unchanged owing to subsidies from the state budget.

WESTERN POLICIES SEEN AGAINST '1984' BACKGROUND

LD041211 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Michal Berko commentary]

[Text] The increasing aggression of U.S. policy is directly connected with the decisive role of the U.S. military-industrial complex in defining U.S. concepts, and there is also a connection with the ideological platform of limitless anticommunism. In 1984, under President Reagan this is to be, so to speak, the everyday image of American policy. Now, a particular boost to this is being provided by calling 1984 Orwell's year, a line eagerly pursued by anticommunist propaganda. It is not an exaggeration to say that George Orwell's book, "1984," written more than 30 years ago, is becoming some sort of bible of modern anticommunists. But whom is this year to serve? This topical question, which is neither easy nor unimportant, set in a broader but necessary context, is now answered in a commentary written by Michal Berko:

[Berko] One can say that Orwell's book "1984," although reflecting the terror and horrors of the World War II and the crimes of Hitlerite fascism, stands out as an exception in postwar writings of Anglo-American authors. The point is that in 1949, when the book was published, clear changes in relations toward a former ally in the war -- the Soviet Union -- had already asserted themselves in American policy. The North Atlantic alliance had been set up, and a period of rabid anti-Sovietism and anticommunism had begun. One cannot help being surprised at the extent to which all these new trends are reflected in the book either directly or indirectly. Revelations and shocking facts about Hitlerite fascism and the methods of rule used by the fascist elite led George Orwell to express fears that in the future such methods would be further perfected hand-in-hand with the development of television -- then only starting -- radio, and the telephone system. He creates the fiction of a totally controlled society which is to become reality in 1984.

Orwell asserts that this society would be controlled from one center with the aid of television screens and electronic equipment capable of eliminating any kind of criticism or disagreement, or opposition to the decisions of the so-called Big Brother.

Orwell was not the only author writing about such opportunities offered by electronics. But he was one of the first authors of postwar literature of this sort who saw the misuse of science in Britain. It is not surprising that at the moment a lot is being said and written in the West about Orwell's 1984, again, in connection with a real threat of there coming into being a new form of totalitarianism and dictatorship. At the touch of the button, it is possible to use a television screen connected to a super computer and data banks for penetrating into citizens' privacy day and night. In this way it is possible to organize people and file them in various categories with exact instructions attached as to how they are to be treated by the authorities.

At the moment super computers and data banks already register antiwar protesters, political views and moods, and citizens' contact with foreigners; they set down ever-more accurate and detailed time norms for labor operations and tasks to make exploitation still more effective. Firms and concerns make every effort to cover all this up by flooding the market with various types of toys and television games.

Orwell himself would be surprised at the ways electronics are being actually utilized in the political systems of the United States, Britain, and other capitalist countries -- and yet, for more than 30 years Western propaganda has been using his book "1984" for attempts to distort the aims of Soviet society and the countries of real socialism. Electronics, this symbol of scientific-technological development, are not being misused only for strengthening the power of capital and the reactionary circles. Now, in 1984, far more dangerous to peaceful life are attempts to militarize electronics as a scientific discipline, as well as other branches which find their place in U.S. plans for waging nuclear wars and gaining military superiority, that is, in a foreign policy directed toward confrontation rather than coexistence and peace.

PROMOTERS OF CAPITALIST METHODS REBUFFED

AU041447 [Editorial Report] Prague TRIBUNA in Czech No 52 on 28 December on pages 8 and 9 carries an 1,800-word article by Vilem Kun entitled "Once Again About Bata and Bata-ism." The article deals with readers' reactions to the article "Myth and Truth About Bata and Bata-ism," published in TRIBUNA No 33. The original TRIBUNA article, published on 17 September, challenged legends about the Bata family -- owners of the largest footwear factory in prewar Czechoslovakia and heads of what is today an international footwear concern that employs 150,000 people in 89 countries -- as "Czechoslovak Fords" and "good capitalists."

Kun says that the editorial office received some letters "from which it is apparent that they were written from positions of socialism and in the interest of overcoming shortcomings" that "highlighted the positive aspects of Bata's system from which -- as the authors of the letters wrote -- we could learn, especially in connection with some present tasks." According to Kun, the letter writers referred to "problems of organization and management, for example, accounting on the basis of individual workshops; the absolutely binding nature of the plan; utmost utilization of production assets and human labor, including an improvement in the work moral; economical use of raw materials and energy; and so forth."

In his letter Dr Milos Stransky from Prague, for example, reportedly praised the economic independence of individual workshops under Bata's system and their evaluation according to actual results and contrasted it with the present system when the whole society has to bear the consequences for someone's poor quality production. He is also quoted as having written: "Just because large Japanese industrialists are exploiting their employees, we will not close our eyes to the technical progress in electronics they have brought about. I think, therefore, that it is not correct to close the eyes to the organizational and managerial talents of Tomas Bata and not to acknowledge their results."

Responding to Stransky's letter, Kun says that "it would be even more incorrect if we closed our eyes to the fact that large Japanese industrialists are exploiting their employees, just because they have accomplished so great a technical progress in electronics: and warns that "even technological development cannot be viewed from a nonclass position." He concedes that "a great deal can, and must, be learned" from Western technological standards and the level of labor productivity, but adds that "at the same time it is necessary to see the whole reality and not to allow the most substantial facts to be obscured."

Kun goes on to quote a letter from Dr Jaroslav Schulz from Brno, in which he reportedly noted that "at a conference of the CIOCU (an international organization for scientific management) [further identification of acronym unknown] in Vienna in 1972 even the Soviet delegate reacted positively to what he described as new 'very interesting ideas' presented there by Tomas Bata Jr., the head of today's supranational Bata concern." Kun admits that "undoubtedly, even Tomas Bata, the company's founder, applied in his own times many new things in managing his enterprise and in undertaking business ventures." But he stresses that it is necessary to see the other side of "Bata-ism" as well, the "cruel exploitation" of workers, the miserable work conditions, and the "beggarly wages." To illustrate his point, Kun extensively quotes articles from Western trade union publications criticizing malpractices in factories of the Bata concern, especially in African and Asian countries.

Kun concludes his article by saying: "Capitalism has not changed, regardless of technical progress and improved management. On the contrary, it is even more predatory, aggressive, and unscrupulous. Its driving force is pursuit of profit, without any regard for man. We, too, want intensification, labor productivity, growth, quality, and thrift. But we want it in the interest of further developing the socialist society, in the interest of raising the living standards of our people."

MAGNESITE PRODUCTION POLLUTES EAST SLOVAKIA

AU032059 [Editorial Report] Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 2 January on page 3 carries a 3,200-word article by Alexander Kollar, employee of the CPSL Central Committee, and Bratislava PRAVDA staff journalists Anna Zimaniova and Maria Dvulitova, entitled "The Effectiveness of Investments Is Man's Responsibility." The article, which is part of a Bratislava PRAVDA series examining the fulfillment of resolutions of district and enterprise party organizations, deals with damage to the environment caused by magnesite production in East Slovakia.

The article opens by saying: "The solution of the problems of the living environment has recently been very forcefully coming into the focus of attention. This is so, in particular, because the warnings and emphatic notifications of experts -- ensuing from the known law-governed interconnection between ecology and the economy -- are changing from the theoretical plane to a harsh reality and growing into a social problem.

"A journey from Revuca to Jelsava via Lubenik causes distress. Tree stumps wrapped in a cloak of stone, gray surroundings behind a veil of dust, every now and then a deserted house or garden. Desolution, the consequence of man's imperfect activity. In the last decade, the Jelsava plant of the Slovak Magnesite Works has not only significantly affected the economic development of Jelsava and the entire district of Roznava but, regrettably, also its living environment. For many of its inhabitants, the city has become unbearable. They have found, and are finding, a solution by moving out. Between 1970 and 1980, the population of Jelsava dropped by 18.6 percent."

The article then notes that the task to "forestall excessive pollution" from magnesite production in Jelsava "by 1975 at the latest" was enshrined in a Slovak Government resolution of 1970. It also cites a number of resolutions of East Slovak regional and Roznava district party bodies aimed at building effective dust collectors and thus eliminating the causes of the "impaired and constantly deteriorating living environment of Jelsava." Nevertheless, because none of these government and party resolutions has been fulfilled "consistently," Jelsava is still "among those territories with the most severely affected living environment in the republic."

The city's national committee reportedly even turned up with the following appeal to the Bratislava PRAVDA editorial office: "Help us save our city. We all work just as honestly and responsibly as millions of working people in our republic, and we do not understand why we have to suffer so much. Why is a matter of such priority as the construction of a dust collecting system being constantly postponed?"

According to the article, the electric filters currently in use intercept only about 86 percent of the magnesite dust. Therefore, the dust downfall per square kilometer in the Jalsava area increased from 288 metric tons in 1978 to 349.3 metric tons in 1980 up to a record 420.3 metric tons last year. As a result, about 1,500 hectares of forests and 4,290 hectares of agricultural land are "permanently impaired" in the Jalsava-Lubenik area.

The article says: "There is no need to stress the importance of the magnesite industry in our national economy, the products of which are an important export article. However, it is inadmissible to hide behind this importance or even to seek in it an explanation for the excessive devastation of nature in the Jelsava-Lubenik area. The truth is that, while gradually modernizing and expanding production in the Slovak Magnesite Works in Jelsava, our society has been spending millions of korunas to keep the influence of the production activity on the living environment at a minimum. The question is whether these investments have always been carried out in good time and quality; whether they have been, and are now, up to the demands of the technology; and whether systematic attention has been, and still is, paid to their good-quality maintenance and operation."

The article then deals with the delayed installation in Jelsava of the highly effective Amertherm dust collecting system. It notes that, according to the original plans, it was to be installed by September 1982, but it quotes Ondrej Kovac, secretary of the CPSL District Committee in Roznava, according to whom even the current deadline -- June 1984 -- is in jeopardy. It mentions the "objective reasons" for the delay cited by the investor and the supplier (one of them being a decision of the Slovak Ministry of Construction to cut the funds to be invested at the project in 1983 from Kcs7.5 million to Kcs3 million) but adds that the "merry-go-round of bringing forward excuses and objective reasons" cannot help eliminate the dust problems. Instead, the article urges everyone involved in the project to do everything possible to comply with the current deadline.

Drawing a general conclusion from the case, the article then says: "The magnesite plant in Jelsava is a classic example of how important it is that the mangement of every plant and enterprise devote the same attention to ecological problems as it does to ensuring production tasks. However, the responsibility must on no account be shouldered by the executive links of production alone. Care for the living environment must be considered not only in the plan of investment actions but also in the breakdown of tasks ensuring plan fulfillment in the respective year. Otherwise, especially if the problems are of a severe nature, shortcomings of this kind will be reflected in production itself, particularly in its quality. And that is no small thing, as an enterprise has to 'earn its living,' must create profit, and is directly interested in the fulfillment of planned tasks and in quality. This again confirms the necessity of the costs of environmental protection becoming part and parcel of production costs and a mandatory indicator for production enterprises. This would force them to pay better and permanent attention to the installations, without which we can no longer visualize active protection of the living environment."

HONECKER: MISSILES CAN HIT NATO MISSILE SITES

LD041946 Hamburg DPA In German 1913 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Paris, 4 Jan (DPA) -- According to Erich Honecker, GDR state and party leader, the sites of the U.S. medium-range weapons west of the GDR frontiers can be reached from the GDR and the CSSR.

In an interview in the French communist weekly REVOLUTION published in Paris today, Honecker said that the range of the Warsaw Pact tactical weapons deployed in these countries exceeded the 120-km range generally ascribed to them by the West.

Thus areas west of the GDR in which missiles have been deployed are "not out of range." The missiles in the GDR and the CSSR have been deployed at an "accelerated" pace, "in order to prevent a breaking of the military-strategic balance" after the deployment of the U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

At the same time, Honecker demanded an immediate end to deployment of NATO missiles and the reduction of existing systems. He emphatically called for measures to limit arms in East and West on the principle of equality and equal security.

SOUTH AFRICAN INCURSION INTO ANGOLA CONDEMNED

LD041537 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1445 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Berlin, 4 Jan (ADN) -- A spokesman for the GDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs made the following statement in Berlin today on South Africa's aggression against the People's Republic of Angola:

The South African apartheid regime has escalated its military provocations against the People's Republic of Angola into barbaric and insidious aggression. For several days, South African troops have been waging war and a campaign of terror in the Angolan provinces of Cunene, Cuando-Cubango, and Huila from illegally occupied Namibia. Angolan towns and villages have been mercilessly bombarded by the South African Air Force. Great losses have been sustained among the Angolan civilian population.

This undeclared, dirty war strongly confirms Pretoria's growing aggressiveness. The racist regime is aiming to further destabilize the situation in the region, deprive the Namibian people of independence, break the people's resistance to apartheid and racist oppression, and achieve dominance in the southern part of the African continent.

It is no coincidence that the brutal attack has taken place at a time when the People's Republic of Angola is achieving important military successes in the fight against counterrevolutionary UNITA gangs. South Africa's pretended readiness for dialogue with its neighbor states and to conclude a nonaggression pact is thus exposed as a gross deception of the world public.

South Africa's crimes against international law are a firm part of the global confrontation policy of the most aggressive circles of imperialism, particularly the United States, against the forces of peace and social progress. Inspired, helped and supported by the United States, the apartheid regime tramples UN resolutions underfoot, including Resolution 545 of the UN Security Council on South Africa's aggression against Angola. It is thus disregarding the will of the overwhelming majority of UN member states. This aggression is directed both against the People's Republic of Angola as well as against all other peace-loving states and peoples of Africa, against the liberation movements of the African continent.

It represents a serious threat to international security and world peace.

The GDR strongly condemns the brutal military aggression as an act of violence against the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola, a state with which it is on most friendly terms. It calls emphatically for an immediate end to hostilities, the unconditional withdrawal of South African occupation troops, and strict respect for Angola's territorial integrity.

The GDR, true to its internationlist policy, pledges its unreserved solidarity with the Angolan people in rebuffing and destroying the South African intervention. It will continue in future to support the struggle against the policy and practice of apartheid, which is a threat to peace and which mocks all principles of international law.

GANDHI RECEIVES SED DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL

AU032045 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 31 Dec 83/1 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] Delhi (ADN) -- On Thursday [29 December] Friedel Trappen, deputy head of the SED Central Committee's Foreign Relations Department and head of the SED delegation to the 77th plenary session of the All-Indian National Congress (AICC), was received in Calcutta by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for cordial talks.

Friedel Trappen conveyed most heartfelt greetings from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. During the talks about fundamental problems of the present, Indira Gandhi underscored the great importance of the cooperation between all forces of peace for the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. In this context the fruitful contacts between the governing parties of India and the GDR and the cooperation between the two states and peoples constitute a major component.

Indira Gandhi in turn requested that her sincere greetings and good wishes be conveyed to Erich Honecker and through him to the GDR people.

On the same day the SED delegation head conducted a detailed exchange of views with AICC Secretary General Rajiv Gandhi. In this context the wish was expressed in unison to further cultivate and deepen the contacts between the SED and the Indian Congress Party. The two sides agreed to further deepen the exchange of experiences on problems related to the social development in their respective countries.

HOFFMAN ADDRESSES FOREIGN MILITARY ATTACHES

LD041826 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1530 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Berlin, 4 Jan -- The GDR people and its soldiers know no greater goal and no stronger desire than to work in peace and live in friendship and mutual respect with all peace-loving peoples. This was stated by Army General Heinz Hoffmann, Politburo member of the SED Central Committee and minister of national defense, at a New Year reception in Berlin today for the military and defense attaches accredited in the GDR.

The GDR supports the concrete and far-reaching proposals of the Soviet Union, which are aimed at removing nuclear weapons from Europe and at radically reducing them -- and other types of weapons as well -- on the basis of equality and equal security in order to reverse the dangerous development and safeguard detente.

The GDR defense minister underlined the firm determination of the soldiers of the socialist German state to do everything possible to preserve peace in the face of the adventurist policy of confrontation and the arms build-up pursued by the United States and its NATO partners.

It will shirk no effort to maintain the necessary fighting power and combat readiness of its troop units and check the aggressive forces.

KRENZ RECEIVES SPD YOUTH DELEGATION 4 JAN

LD042055 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1544 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Berlin, 4 Jan (ADN) -- Egon Krenz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, on Wednesday received for a discussion the delegation of the Federal Executive of the Young Socialists' working group in the SPD, led by its chairman, Rudolf Hartong, which is visiting the GDR at the invitation of the FDJ Central Council.

Egon Krenz briefed the guests on the seventh meeting of the SED Central Committee. The domestic and foreign policy tasks outlined at this meeting in the speech by Erich Honecker, the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, once again underline how seriously the GDR takes its commitment to do everything possible to ensure that no war ever again emanates from German soil.

The visit to the GDR by a delegation of young socialists, Egon Krenz stressed, is taking place at a time when the peoples are experiencing one of the most severe tests of the post war period as a result of the deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles. In this situation the GDR will do everything within its power alongside its allies to maintain peace in Europe and the world. It advocates with all its might that the further deployment of U.S. first-strike weapons be stopped immediately and that the systems already set up be dismantled. In the struggle for peace, the GDR youth, led by members of the FDJ, stand in the first ranks.

Rudolf Hartung reported on the young socialists' position in the struggle to limit arms and disarmament. He stressed that in 1984 the young socialists will support the actions of the peace movement against the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe. This will make it even clearer that the Federal Government has adopted the missile decision against the expressed will of the absolute majority of the FRG population. The young Socialists are in favor of a stop to the deployment and a reduction in all short- and medium-range missiles in Europe. The goal of all efforts must be a Europe free of nuclear weapons.

Present at the meeting were members of the SED Central Committee Eberhard Aurich, first secretary of the FDJ Central Council, and Herbert Haeber and Wolfgang Herger, SED Central Committee department chiefs. Also present were the deputy chairmen of the young socialists in the SPD Ulf Skirke, Olaf Scholz, Jochen Worsch, Federal Secretary Horst Wegner, and Member of the Federal Executive Norbert Neuser.

WEST BERLINER HELD FOR BORDER VIOLATION

AU041432 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 3 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- On 2 January 1984 a man violated the GDR state border in the Berlin-Treptow District. The border violator was detained without the use of firearms. He has no identification papers with him. According to his statements he is Andreas Krell, resident of Berlin (West). To examine the identity of the person and the details of the border violation he was handed over to the responsible GDR organs.

HONECKER CONGRATULATES ALGERIA'S BENDJEDID

AU291705 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 28 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, has sent the following telegram of congratulations to Chadli Bendjedid, general secretary of the National Liberation Front (FLN) and president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria:

Dear Comrade Chadli Bendjedid:

I have noted with great pleasure that the Fifth FLN Congress was successfully concluded.

On the occasion of your reelection as FLN general secretary I convey to you on behalf of the SED Central Committee and on my own behalf cordial congratulations linked with best wishes for personal well-being, health, and creative vigor in implementing the important decisions adopted by the fifth congress for further developing the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and its consistent peace policy.

NATIONAL FRONT PRESIDENT GREETS PRK COUNTERPART

BK311009 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Dec 83

[Text] Comrade Professor Lothar Kolditz, president of the GDR National Front National Council, recently sent a message to Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the KUFNCD [Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense] National Council, to express congratulations on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the founding of the KUFNCD. The message says, among other things:

The party, mass organizations, and people, under our country's National Front have followed the active contributions of the KUFNCD toward fulfilling the resolutions adopted at the Forth KPRP Congress for the well being of the Kampuchean people and the building of progressive and advanced socialism. At the same time, your victories are effective contributions to assisting the restoration of peace in Southeast Asia and the world. The 5th anniversary of the founding of the KUFNCD provides us an opportunity to reaffirm, once again, our firm friendship and fraternal solidarity. I am convinced that the cooperation between the KUFNCD and the GDR National Front will be further deepened for the benefit of our peoples and peace.

MINISTER MITZINGER ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON ENERGY

DW041359 [Editorial Report] East Berlin Domestic Service in German at 1600 GMT on 3 January carries a 40-minute live or recorded "listeners' forum" program in which Minister of Coal and Power Wolfgang Mitzinger responds to listeners' questions. Commenting on the tasks of his ministry, Mitzinger says that energy supplies must be "reliably ensured at all times and every day", which means "that 850,000 tons of raw coal must be produced every day," also, some 26 million cubic meters of cooking gas and 138,000-140,000 tons of briquets must be produced daily in winter, and 19,000-20,000 megawatts must be generated by powerplants, he says. "Some 1.3 billion cubic meters of overburden must be removed annually" in connection with coal mining, the minister states.

Responding to a question on energy supply plans for 1984, Mitzinger says: "The bases for a stable supply of energy to our country are our local resources, particularly raw brown coal and its further refinement." A 27-percent increase in pulverized fuel production is planned, the minister states, adding that "pulverized brown coal is a highly valuable refined domestic fuel" which is also being used in the cement industry to replace imported natural gas.

Responding to a question on coal production, Mitzinger says, "we will start coal production in three new open pit mines this year, namely in (Dockwitz), Dreiweibern, and Graebendorf, and at an additional five open pit mines, the removal of overburden will begin." Commenting on the use and refinement of brown coal, he says that in addition to the known production of pulverized fuel, briquets, and cooking gas, brown coal is also used for the production of tar, oils, extracts, and synthetic gas for use as raw materials for further processing in the chemical industry.

Answering a question about the use of ash, the minister explains that about 30 percent of the ash is being used mainly in mining, the construction industry, and in agriculture for cultivation and stabilization purposes." Mitzinger adds that the production of high-quality brick stones is also planned.

In response to a question on long-distance heating, the minister says that "1.2 million apartments are already connected to long-distance heating, and 81,500 newly-built apartments will be connected to long-distance heating this year."

On the subject of energy savings, Mitzinger says that "we have set the task for 1984 to economize the equivalent of 4.9 million tons of raw brown coal by reducing specific energy consumption." He adds that in 1984 it is planned to exploit 84 percent of secondary energy in the coal energy sector, which would amount to a raw coal equivalent of 8.4 million tons. The minister states that every citizen can contribute something to saving energy when it is considered, that 20 percent of electric power and as much as 50 percent of cooking gas are used by the people in winter.

Responding to a question on rationalization in the coal industry, Mitzinger says that in 1981-85 the construction of rationaliztion means is planned to increase by 400 percent, in 1983-84, the increase will amount to 33 percent. On the question of the working conditions of miners, Mitzinger says that "next year, working conditions will be improved for almost 10,000 jobs involving 15,000 working people, and we will use a total of M500 million in our branch to improve working and living conditions."

CONSTRUCTION MINISTER ON CURRENT, FUTURE GOALS

DW031323 [Editorial Report] East Berlin Domestic Service in German at 1600 GMT on 2 January carries a 40-minute recorded "listeners' forum" program in which Minister of Construction Wolfgang Junker responds to listeners' questions on the past and future activities of the construction industry.

In answer to various questions, Junker says that in 1983, construction industry production grew at a rate of more than 4 percent, and that 6 percent less material was used than in 1982. He notes that in 1984, about 117,000 new apartments will be built and some 80,000 apartments will be modernized. From 1971 to 1983, more than 1.9 million apartments have been built, and the task of building a total of 3.3.3.5 million from 1971 to 1990 has been fulfilled by about 60 percent, Junker says. More than 158,000 nursery and 306,000 kindergarten places have been created, he says and today there is a total of 657,000 places in nurseries and 980,000 in kindergartens. Some 1,700 schools and 1,730 gymnasiums in schools have been built 1971-83, Junker says.

So far about M160 billion have been spent for complex housing construction, and in 1984 a total of M22 billion will be spent on housing construction, he notes. Junker states that it is planned to build 12,000-14,000 privately owned houses in 1984, and about 60,000-65,000 privately owned houses are to be built 1984-90. From 1986 to 1990, about 1 million apartments will be created through new construction and renovation, with the state making about M20 billion available for housing construction and renovation.

There are currently about 6.7 million apartments in the GDR, the minister states.

Junker says that in 1984 about 22,700 apartments will be newly built or renovated in Berlin and that 12 new schools will also be built as well as many kindergartens and nurseries. The new Friedrichstadt Palace will be completed in 1984, and the Akademieplatz Theater will be completed as a concert hall in late September 1984, Junker says.

On the subject of repair work for houses, the minister says that special brigades are at work, as well as 1,000 mobile repair brigades. The main thing in connection with housing construction is good quality, Junker concludes.

JEWISH CONGREGATIONS PRESIDENT GREETS HONECKER

AU041431 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 3 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Berlin (ND) -- Helmut Aris, president of the Association of Jewish Congregations in the GDR, has sent the following message to Erich Honecker, GDR State Council chairman:

"On the occasion of the New Year I convey to you on behalf of the Association of Jewish Congregations in the GDR as well as on my own behalf sincere congratulations. We will continue to exert all our strength to ensure that despite all threats peace is preserved and secured so that all people in the world can enjoy it. I wish you, esteemed Mr Chairman of the State Council, good health, well-being, and creative vigor for 1984."

SUMMER TIME CHANGE TAKES EFFECT 25 MARCH

AU040954 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 30 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- According to a decision of the Council of Ministers, summer time will again be introduced in the GDR in 1984. It will start on Sunday, 25 March 1984, at 0200 and end on Sunday, 30 September 1984, at 0300. Thus, the GDR will implement a regulation similar to that in other European countries. The responsible organs are instructed to take the necessary measures.

BRIEFS

PROTOCOL WITH PRC -- Beijing, 22 Dec (ADN) -- The further development and deepening of cooperation between the GDR and China in the chemical industry was agreed in a joint protocol signed in Beijing by the relevant ministers of both countries, Guenther Wyschofsky and Qin Zhongda. During its visit to the PRC, the GDR delegation visited chemical enterprises and research institutes in Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, and Xian. [Text] [East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1331 GMT 22 Dec 83 LD]

FDJ SOLIDARITY BRIGADES -- At present 18 FDJ friendship brigades are practicing anti-imperialist solidarity in nine countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. They assist in the solution of tasks of social development and thus in the consolidation of independence. In Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, the PDRY, Laos, and Mozambique they are training young cadres in vocations urgently needed for economic development. [Excerpt] [East Berlin Television Service in German 1830 GMT 28 Dec 83 DW]

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON EUROMISSILES

AU041251 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 31 Dec 83 pp 3, 4

[Article by Janos Nagy, state secretary of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "The International Situation -- 1983-84"]

[Excerpt] NATO's Missile Deployment Program

The development of the European situation is rightly in the focus of attention of international public opinion. Owing to its history and present, Europe has a decisive impact on the development of the destiny of the world. It has been the starting point of two devastating world wars, and today the world's mightiest and most modernly equipped armed forces oppose each other here, at the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Thus, there is justified concern that a danger threatens the military balance of power that originates precisely from Europe and that, as a result, our continent also may become one of the principal tension points in the world.

Politically, the beginning of NATO's missile deployment program imposes an additional burden on East-West relations, while militarily -- if it were permitted to do so -- it would upset the global military balance of power that has developed between the two alliance systems. It is an indubitable fact that the United States and the West European countries that accept the new missiles are responsible for this dangerous and, ultimately, senseless step and its consequences, for having made the Geneva Soviet-U.S. talks impossible.

Nothing bears out the supposition asserted in NATO circles that the security of Western Europe has been weakened through the coming about of the existing relative state of parity in the area of strategic weapons. The talks offered a suitable remedy for the concern caused by the Soviet intermediate-range weapons, because the Soviet Union had offered a considerable reduction of its weapons of this category and even a radical reduction of them if it could make an agreement attainable.

Breaking down the parity between the two alliance systems to its elements also has become a source of false suppositions. In the final analysis, two integrated military systems are opposing each other. There has never been -- and cannot be -- a miror-image [illegible]ty between various types and categories of weapons. On both sides, the structure [illegible]equipment of the armed forces have developed in accordance with specific military-[illegible]trategic conditions and geographic and other factors with considerable differences. Parity is the sum total of these differences, a whole range of disparities that compensate for each other.

It can be established by a simple calculation that the deployment of the U.S. missiles is at variance with the requirements of a Soviet-U.S. strategic balance of power -- parity -- as well. The Soviet intermediate-range missiles are unable to reach the territory of the United States, while the Pershings and cruise missiles can reach deep into Soviet territory.

It is known that the Soviet Union, with the full agreement of the rest of the Warsaw Pact countries, has made great efforts in the interests of a negotiated solution. It has made proposals showing a flexibility and responsibility that, on an honest basis and with consideration for both sides' security interests, would have made avoidable what has ultimately happened. The socialist countries' policy and security concept have not changed. We continue to profess that it is only possible to maintain peace in Europe and the world on the basis of equality and equal security and by preserving the military balance of power.

That is why the Hungarian People's Republic also supports the inevitable and moderate Soviet countermeasures announced after the beginning of the U.S. missile deployment. It is our firm conviction that preserving the military balance of power is a common interest of all peoples of the world. It is a fact that we are going further away -- only temporarily, we hope -- from one of our important objectives, that is, from maintaining a balance of power at a lower level of armaments. It seems, however, that only through suitable countermeasures can leading NATO circles be made to realize that more weapons reduce rather than enhance the security of the side that initiates a new spiral of armament today, as well as the fact that security cannot be attained to the detriment of other countries, by weakening the security of others. A unilateral increase of armament is, on the one hand, accompanied by a dangerous destabilizing effect, while, on the other, it inevitably activates a compensation mechanism, countermeasures aimed at restoring the balance of power. Just as there can be no winner of a nuclear war, the arms race "cannot be won," either.

In this tense situation, the most important question is whether there is a way out. We are convinced that there is. The balance of power that has developed between the two alliance systems must be accepted, and security interests must be mutually taken into consideration, because only in this way does a negotiated solution become possible.

This concept of security, which is accepted totally or in part by numerous West European politicians and experts, does not change even after the interruption of talks and the beginning of the missile deployment. Regarding the dangers and prospects of the situation in Europe, one must point out first of all that, considering the Soviet Union's measures in response, a balance of power continues to exist, because these measures were prompted precisely by the requirement to maintain the balance of power.

As unequivocally emerges from Soviet official statements, the measures in response do not mean that the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist countries regard this dangerous phase of armament as closed or that possibilities for a negotiated solution have been exhausted. The countermeasures make the dangers arising from the increased threat -- primarily from the reduction of warning time -- mutual, but they obviously do not resolve problems of stability. These measures were necessary and justified also to prove that negotiations cannot be conducted with the intention of misleading public opinion and from a position of strength and using them as a means for a legalized attainment of unilateral advantages.

In themselves, the beginning of the deployment of the U.S. missiles and the initiation of countermeasures do not mean that the two alliance systems are drifting inevitably and irresistibly toward a critical situation leading to a military conflict. Avoiding a conflict remains a fundamental interest of the socialist and capitalist countries alike. The European situation and East-West relations are affected not only by the confrontational endeavors of extremist imperialist circles, but also by mutual or parallel interests.

A solution, the development of possibilities and outlines for a negotiated settlement, cannot be expected overnight; it could require a longer period of time. We trust that events will set in motion a process of consideration and reappraisal in the NATO countries that would, in time, create the prerequisites for substantive negotiations. For its part, the Soviet Union has not closed the door to this, despite the fact that the Geneva talks have been made impossible.

Not a single sober-minded Western leader can lose sight of the fact that, regardless of the spirit of whatever abstract strategic concept in which it is done, the increase of weapons and the deployment of new ones cannot bring either political, or genuine military advantages for the NATO countries. Under circumstances of a mutual destructive capability, security can be achieved only through negotiations, with a mutual observance of security interests, and a limitation of armaments and the danger of military conflicts.

REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 22 DEC

LD222339 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1710 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Excerpts] In the pre-Christmas bustle, viewers must be curious as to what the first day of the winter session of the National Assembly was like, in detail. Briefly, from the table of contents: before the agenda, the deputies confirmed (Laszlo Boros), (Ferenc Sztrapak), (Jozsef Daurecz), and (Dr Tibor Cibere) as the new deputies.

Very briefly on the agenda: the draft law on the amendment of the constitution -- the deputies started their work on this this morning. A draft law also lay in front of the deputies on the election of National Assembly deputies and council members. The third topic was the budget for 1984. From among the laws, the supreme law of the land, the constitution has a special place and role. To mention just one example: A (?qualified) majority -- that is, at least two-thirds of the deputies -- is necessary to create and change this law. This discussion of the draft law on the amendment of the constitution was opened by the presentation by Imre Katona, secretary of the Presidental Council of the People's Republic:

[Begin Katona recording] Our valid constitution was enacted by the National Assembly in 1949. This was an achievement of historical significance; it ratified the people's power and set as its target the construction of society free from exploitation: socialism. During the 34 years that have passed since then, the constitution has been amended only once, in 1972, this was made necessary by the previous development of more than 2 decades that brought changes in the entire society. The experiences of the decade since then have shown that our constitution fundamentally serves well the accomplishment of those tasks that face us in the sphere of the construction of socialist society.

There is constitutional order in our country; this is the great achievement of our party and our working people. This, however, cannot exempt us from our obligation to make further measures in the interest of the constitution's regulations being even more fully effective in the future. For this reason, the further development of the means serving the protection of constitutionality is justified. The necessity of the increased protection of constitutionality is justified primarily by the present legislative practice. The normative system and method of direction has taken root and is prevailing more and more in the guidance of our state and economic order. This requires and, at the same time, increases the number of the provisions of law, directives, and the various instructions.

Besides directives and decisions in principle of the Supreme Court, now the ministers and the leaders of organs with nationwide authority also issue -- alongside the provisions of law issued by them -- directives, positions of priniples, and briefings. These fill an important role in the sphere of the interpretation and application of provisions of law. However, all this increases the danger that the harmony of legislation and, respectively, the application of law might break down in some cases. Experiences show that the higher organs called to guarantee the constitutionality of legislation do not always gain knowledge of these in time; this is the reason that in some cases the expected intervention also is delayed or does not occur.

All these make it necessary for us to make the state law's guarantees of protection of constitutionality more effective. Therefore, it is justified: Legislation should be supervised from the viewpoint of constitutionality by a newly created organ, the Constitution Law Council, without decreasing the sphere of authority and responsibility of legislating organs and the minister of justice, who coordinates legislation. [end recording]

[Reporter] This new organ, the Constitution Law Council, will be the organ of the National Assembly, according to the amended constitution. This and the importance of the Constitution Law Council dictate that all this must be decided in the constitution; that is why this is being regulated here. The task of this council can be summed up by stating that it supervises the constitutionality of the provisions of law and legal directions, their conformity with the constitution. Naturally, in order for this to take place effectively, there also is a need that, in so far as irregularity is experienced, it should be in their means and rights to suspend the provision of law that is unconstitutional.

The proposal on the amendment of the constitution also covered the offices of state secretary. On this, Imre Katona said the following:

[Begin Katona recording] Esteemed national Assembly, the office of state secretary was created in 1968. At that time there were altogether five state secretaries entrusted with leading an organ of national jurisdiction. With the law-decree we made possible the state secretaries' legislative activity, but with the proviso that the state secretaries' orders, as a rule of law, could not contain regulations directly binding on the citizens. Today, 12 organs of national jurisdiction are headed by a state secretary. They include several organs, for example the National Bureau of Water Conservation or the National Bureau for Environmental and Nature Protection, where it follows from the nature of the organ's sphere of activity that the area demanding regulation affects not only legal persons but also citizens, and that the dispositions cannot be separated, since that would bring with it a duplication of regulation. The necessary harmony between the tasks of the state secretaries' leading organs of national jurisdiction and their sphere of legislative authority does not exist today. It is justified to create the possibility for a state secretary entrusted with leading an organ of national jurisdiction to issue orders which are binding also on the citizens. Understandably, these orders may not be contrary to the rules of law made by the National Assembly, the Presidential Council or the Council of Ministers, or to ministerial decrees.

Esteemed National Assembly, the country's villages and towns have gone through a great social transformation. From 1 January 1984 the number of our towns will go up to 109. These towns play an ever more significant role in the supply of the population residing in their catchment areas and in the administration of their affairs. The village and municipal councils have further strengthened, their role has grown, and they have performed a growing number of economic, supply, administrative and organizational tasks. As a result of these processes, adapting to the demands of practical life, it has become possible for the county districts as administrative units to cease. For this reason, according to the proposal on the constitution amendment, the division of the counties into county districts will cease. This creates favorable conditions for the local councils' autonomous nature to evolve. [end recording]

The Law of Franchise fully expresses the conditions that reign in a country, the strength of the political system. Thus, it is quite understandable that the second point on the agenda to be discussed, the amendment of the franchise law, is also a constitutional question and therefore figured in the last part of Imre Katona's speech Since the two topics are so closely related, for this very reason the National Assembly's Administrative, Legal and Judicial Committee also discussed them together.

The No 3 Law was created in Hungary in 1966 -- this was the Law of Franchise, and was amended in 1970. It is worth highlighting one thing in this draft bill: that even among the draft bill debates which are nowadays becoming more and more frequent, this one stands out in so far that this draft has been debated in a very wide range by virtually every stratum of society. And just how important this is for the experts, the jurists, is also indicated by the fact that the minister of justice, Dr Imre Markoja, spoke about this at the very start of his expose. Here are some excerpts from his speech:

[Begin Markoja recording] Honored National Assembly, because of its outstanding political and legal significance we have prepared the draft with special attention, and during this work we have tried to fully realize the requirements concerning the democratic process of the drafting of a bill. Although the social and specialist discussion of the important drafts have become a political practice in recent decades, now we can state without any exaggeration that the draft of the electoral bill has been received by the public with unprecedented interest. This mass interest has signalled unequivocally that the deepening of socialist democracy has been becoming a basic element and demand of our social and economic development. As the comrade deputies know well, the draft was published in several thousand copies and its most important parts in 1.5 million copies in the press, and it was submitted for wide social debate by the Patriotic People's Front together with other social organizations. About 25,000 remarks and proposals have been made at more than 1,300 forums with tens of thousands of participants.

We have used in the draft the experiences of this extensive debate. On the basis of the remarks and proposals of the participants in the debate, several clauses in the draft have been reformulated or modified. And in connection with alternative proposals, we have taken into account the majority opinion formed in the debate.

One of the conclusions has been that the well-proved principles of the existing regulations have to be put unchanged in the new draft. Among these, I would stress first of all that the political basis of our electoral system must be the policy of the people's front expressing the national unity, which means internally the program of the building of socialism, internationally, our loyalty to the alliance system of the socialist countries and our devotion to the cause of international peace and security.

In our electoral system, we have to maintain those constitutional principles which have been already expressed in the laws and properly guaranteed, like the universal, equal, and direct suffrage and the secret ballot. These rules of our electoral law have thus far satisfied the demands and requirements of socialist democracy, and they will maximally satisfy them in the future.

The other conclusion, on the other hand, has been, as I mentioned earlier, that it is justified to take a further step in our approach and method connected with elections and also in legal regulation, and we have to introduce certain changes. Now I summarize the essence of the planned changes.

First, I would like to speak about the double or multiple nomination. Our existing arrangement makes possible double or multiple nomination at the election of National Assembly deputies and council members. The rule, for example, according to which anyone can propose a person at the pre-election meetings and one third of the votes of those present at the meeting is sufficient for getting on the list, has aimed to urge multiple nomination.

In practice, however, a contrary tendency has been prevailing. At the National Assembly elections, there were double or multiple nominations in 49 constituencies in 1971, in 34 constituencies in 1975, and only in 15 constituencies in 1980. In 1971, there were 3,000 double or multiple nominations for the council elections. In 1980, however, there were under 1,800. The new electoral draft on the basis of this experience wishes to ensure by legal means that in individual parliamentary and council constituencies, two or more candidates are nominated. The double or multiple nomination will, of course, increase the significance of the nomination meetings. [end recording]

As the minister said, the draft pays attention to the second candidate who is not elected. According to the draft, if this person gets at least one-fourth of the votes, he (or she) becomes an alternate deputy or alternate council member, and this will also simplify by-elections. A new element in this draft is the national list. This applies to the 10 percent of the total number of deputies. As a result of all this, the method of casting the vote, will of course, also change. The minister of justice also said:

[Begin Markoja recording] Honored National Assembly, during the preparation of the electoral draft, a great number of remarks and proposals have been made in several forums concerning the case of affiliated villages belonging to joint councils. The essence of these contributions is that although the concentration of village administration was justified in the interest of improving the level of this activity, this was accompanied by the undesirable consequence of the loss of effective representation of the affiliated villages. The so-called groups of councillors have been unable to provide this function.

More than half of the village population lives in villages with common councils. This in itself by all means justifies the recognition of the social requirement that administrative activity preserve the advantages arising from its concentration, and that partner villages get greater independence, scope, and better representation. The draft law, promoting this, provides that in the partner village that belongs to the villages' common council, but is not in the seat of the common council, the elected council member at the same time becomes a member of the local board. With this provision, the draft law introduces in the partner villages the institution of a village board, which would be vested with appropriate jurisdiction, sphere of authority by the new regulation of the council law, coming into effect at the same time. Included here is the chairman of the board as well, who henceforth in essence will be the state leader of the given partner village. [end recording]

Mihaly Korom, member of the MSZMP Politburo, was among the speakers. He delivered his address on behalf of the party Central Committee. In his speech he analyzed our electoral system in accordance with the part it plays in the development of socialist democracy. Let us now quote him:

[Begin Korom recording] Esteemed National Assembly, dear comrade deputies, in the course of its activities, the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party pays particular attention to the political institutions of our society. The 12th congress of our party considered strengthening the democratic nature of their functioning as one of the most important tasks. In the wake of the congress resolutions, the leading bodies of the state and the party -- among these also the National Assembly -- repeatedly dealt with various parts of this complex of questions. This has also been the case at the current session with, for instance, the establishment of the Constitutional Law Council, the increasing of the role of people's control and with the modernization of public administration. The draft law before us also belongs to this series of issues.

The development and deepening of state life and socialist democracy form a longer-term program and they are a requirement arising out of the essence of our system. The experiences of history prove that the efficient functioning of the institutions of state organs and of socialist democracy to a great extent strengthens the power of the working people and assists us in achieving our aims.

We have now reached a stage of our development in which the further tasks of building socialist society can only be achieved by bringing to the fore, to an even greater extent than before, the creative energy possessed by people. That depends, to a great degree, on the democratism of public life, the action-oriented activism of working people, and on the fact that they themselves should feel that they have a share in shaping their own destinies and in making decisions that affect them.

An election is a movement that affects the whole of the adult population. Millions of people attend nomination and electoral meetings and hundreds of thousands of them voice their views. Nearly 8 million people decide about the candidates and vote on the program declared by the Patriotic People's Front. The elections also provide an opportunity for us to become acquainted, in the widest possible circle, with the reception by society of our policies and with the views of the population about our objectives. They also provide an opportunity for us to mobilize decent citizens to carry out the tasks facing our society.

Owing to its leading role in society, the MSZMP pays great attention, in the rank of our political institutions, to the functioning, in accordance with their purpose, of the people's representative bodies. It is part of its duty to take care that this functioning is in line with the social conditions of our country, and expresses the real necessities of our socialist public life and the requirements and demands of the present and the future. This endeavor has become a public cause. It has encountered general agreement and support in the course of the wide-ranging social debates carried out on the draft law and this has also been registered in the statement forwarded to the Central Committee of the party by the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front.

Esteemed comrade deputies, in the development of the system of political institutions we will continue to regard it as our important task to consistently assert our basic and well-proven principles and fill the existing frameworks with even more substance. Parallel to that, expecting the new requirements, we are also initiating the necessary changes.

The basic stipulations of the electoral law in force effectively serve our socialist goals. For this reason, the current draft law also contains all those principles the correct nature of which has been proved by life and practice.

We will preserve these in the future, too. I would stress among these the nature of the elections, in the context of the People's Front, the individual constituency as a basic form, and the right of the citizens to directly nominate candidates and vote for them.

At the same time, on the basis of our experiences, we have reached the conclusion that conditions have become ripe for the further development of the system of electing deputies and councillors and for increasing the substantive part played by citizens in the most important aspects of the elections. The draft law, therefore, does not contain radical changes; rather, it stands on the foundations of continuity and gradual development. However, both individually and in their entirety, taken together, the proposals submitted are significant. I shall now briefly speak about these.

Among the new proposals I would also stress that double or multiple nomination of candidates is to become general practice, in contrast to the current practice in which it is only a possibility. This is justified mainly by the fact that while the institutions of socialist democracy as well as its substantive traits have further developed in numerous areas of our society during the past decade, elections, on the other hand, have been narrowed down in many places to the single act of casting one's vote. Naturally, voting in itself has its own social role because by voting, citizens can also express their views on policies. However, besides the assertion of the generally accepted policies, it is a matter of no indifference to citizens who shapes, represents, and carries out these policies.

Therefore, by making multiple nomination a general practice, this expands in practice the opportunity for expressing personal trust and provides an institutional guarantee for it. In this way, the citizens have an opportunity to place in the elected bodies those candidates in whom they have the greatest trust and in whose persons they see a guarantee for the good management of national and local issues and the best kind of representation of the interests of smaller and larger communities.

For this reason, it will be increasingly important for the electorate to be able to get to know the candidates really well, to be able to attentively follow their activities and, together with this, there is a growing requirement for the candidates themselves to become well acquainted with their constituents. This is the real reason for making double or multiple nomination a general practice. I will just mention that a similar practice is in force in several socialist countries.

Our present electoral system is based on the individual constituencies. Taking as its point of departure the basically good experiences concerning this, the draft law also ensures the maintenance of this practice in the future. However, the exclusive nature of the system of individual constituencies also contains contradictions within itself. It is with a view to eliminating these inconsistencies that the draft law stipulates the establishment, by ways and means determined, of a national electoral list. As has already been said in various connections today, I do not believe that there is any need for a detailed explanation of the important interest in ensuring that the leaders of our political and social life, the nonparty representatives of our policy of alliance, and the nationally known and respected outstanding figures of cultural and scientific life and of the churches also take their seats as representatives in the highest state authority and legislative body of our country. Incidentally, this is already the case. However, at present, these personalities are nominated and elected in individual constituencies. However, the nature and sphere of their work go well beyond the boundaries of their constituencies, and they have a nationwide significance. This is the reason why some of them are to be elected on the national list. [end recording]

The leading politician of the party also spoke in detail about the international conditions in which the draft law on elections has been submitted. Dr Mihaly Korom said that our people firmly profess the principles of peaceful coexistence. This was how the Central Committee secretary then continued his line of thought.

[Begin Korom recording] The political stability of our country adds weight to the word of the Hungarian People's Republic. Our working people highly appreciate the balanced political atmosphere in which, despite all external and internal problems, we live and work. We are aware of the fact that there is a need for further efforts in all walks of life in order to overcome the difficulties. We know that all of us must do even more to achieve the socialist objectives formulated at the 12th congress.

We consider it to be of fundamental importance that party members and those outside the party continue to work together in good understanding for the further prosperity of our socialist homeland. It is creative and disciplined work and an honest way of sticking by one's duty that advances the cause of socialism for the benefit and profit of all of us.

Esteemed National Assembly, we profess with conviction that the approval and practical implementation of the new electoral law will be yet another important stage in the strengthening of the unity and cohesion of our people. For this reason, on behalf of the MSZMP Central Committee and on my own behalf, I recommend it for approval to the esteemed National Assembly. [applause] [end recording]

In the debate on the report submitted by the minister of justice several deputies spoke. The contributions of Mrs Istvan Bibok, a member of an agricultural cooperative, and of Mrs Erno Simon, a factory worker, were particularly interesting. Both of them have been elected deputies in constituencies with double nomination and, while this was not required by law, this opportunity was obviously used. Mrs Istvan Bibok stressed in particular that attention should be paid to ensure that the candidate who does not get elected should still have an appropriate part to play in public life.

Dr Istvan Gajdocsi, the committee chairman in charge of the draft law, outlined at length the various views. He emphasized, for instance, that in this particularly important question not only the members of the Legal Committee should have been asked but other committees should have also voiced their views.

The debate was addressed by Dr Imre Pozsgay, secretary general of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front.

[Begin Pozsgay recording] I should like to begin by saying that I fully agree with the draft law, with the draft law proposal, which, as was evident here from the expose and the remarks, stood the test of widespread, very effective social debate before it came to the National Assembly. At this forum, I must also say that according to the experiences gained in the movement of the Patriotic People's Front there already was excellent cooperation in the preparation of the law, with the government organs dealing in a specialist and in a politically grounded manner with the preparation of the law, primarily with the Ministry of Justice.

From among the lessons of the debate of the law, since in the remarks here today attention was drawn to numerous essential interconnections, I should like to draw the attention of the esteemed National Assembly to only some experiences gained in the People's Front movement, to interconnections that were elucidated there. From among these, I should mention first that the participants in the social debate, the very significant and active multitude which undertook collaboration in the preparation of the law, virtually without exception spoke at every forum with appreciation for the party's role in taking initiative on this issue -- that is, we did not keep quiet anywhere about this; in fact, the common wish tended toward everyone knowing this. The political initiative for the renewal of the election law had as its point of departure the party's congress and the party's Central Committee; the political significance primarily is in that citizens outside the party also have reconfirmed the presence of this role of taking the initiative and this guiding role in Hungarian society, and the wish that this should continue. Within this, I consider to be especially important and essential the strengthening of local self-government. It is possible that the strengthening of local self-government may entail problems of direction, but it can bring political stability, because the number of responsible citizens and responsible communities in the country is increasing.

There are those who have said that democracy and democratic decisions are too cumbersome, especially in a world when the requirement for competence is manifested forcefully and categorically. It is probable here that we must create further and further means of orientation in order to see clearly in this issue. Recalling only the previous lesson, I say that should the decision be complicated, difficult, and laborious, the support in the implementaton should be all the greater.

On behalf of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front, perhaps I must say this much in this debate, in accordance with my personal mandate of representation, expressing again my agreement with the draft law, with the draft bill, with the ministerial expose justifying this, with the report of the committee and there is great political significance that here, the representative of the Central Committee gave further information on these initiatives for the work of the National Assembly, parliament.

In conclusion, in this agreement and in the spirit of this I should say only that (?it was demonstrated) here in the social debate that the Hungarian people want to tread on the path of socialism on their own feet. This is what I would like to say. [applause] [end recording]

[Reporter] At the end of the debate, containing many interesting thoughts, the parliament, the National Assembly, adopted the draft law on the amendment of the Constitution, as well as the draft law on the election of National Assembly deputies and council members. At times like this, toward the end of the year, it is a scheduled topic of the National Assembly to discuss next year's budget. This topic, too, fell to the finance minister. We now quote from the words of Istvan Hetenyi:

[Begin Hetenyi recording] In determining our economic tasks for next year we start out from the economic political requirement which has been constant and basically unaltered for a good 5 years now, the essence of which is the maintenance of our solvency, the defense of our attained achievements. We can put our activity ever more perceptibly in the service of these things. The results speak for themselves. At the same time it cannot be denied that we have to carry this policy for success on a rugged path. A few years ago, when the targets were pinpointed, we counted on more favorable international conditions, and in one or two regards on fewer domestic difficulties.

It is a very considerable achievement of our economy this year that even in 1983 we retained the country's international solvency. It was possible to raise exports significantly and to keep imports at a moderate level. The positive balance of foreign trade continued to grow. We have continued to maintain the level developed so far of the population's real income and consumption. Consumer prices developed within the planned limits. We are fulfilling the plan of housing, general school, and hospital construction.

The budget revenues and expenditures are also developing according to plan in a broad outline; what is more, it may be that this year's budget deficit will be smaller than that which was approved.

However, we can also see the weak points: The domestic consumption and, above all, the investments go well beyond those planned. The favorable experiences and the recognized weaknesses are useful lessons for our next year's work. In 1984 we will continue to pursue the economic-political direction decided at the 12th congress, stressing that the maintenance of solvency has priority because that is where we have the most to do, and this is also the condition for the attainment of all our other objectives.

[Hetenyi continues] Esteemed National Assembly, in planning the state income in harmony with the national economic plan, we are building on the fact that the national income, calculated in comparative prices, will grow by 1.5 to 2 percent; in current prices, it will rise by some 8 percent. In planning expenditures, we also took into account the circumstance that domestic consumption of the national income will be smaller than this year in comparative prices, and can grow by only about 5 percent in current prices. The maintenance of our solvency demands that we increase foreign trade surplus by at least 15 billion forints next year because only in this way can we meet our interest payments and outstanding repayment commitments.

We expect enterprises and cooperatives to create the necessary products, seek out export possibilities, and sell their products as advantageously as possible. We will continue to provide conditions for the population's real income and consumption to attain this year's level. We will maintain these levels. The population's money receipts will grow by 8 percent; the consumer price level will rise by 7 to 8 percent.

The wage increases will be smaller than that of the total money recepts; on the other hand, social security spending and welfare benefits will grow much faster than these. The fact that we are also planning central price measures -- to maintain the balance of purchasing power and stock funds, avoid the separation of market and official prices, and reduce consumer price supplements -- also plays a role in the planned development of the price level. [end recording]

The finance minister made no secret of the way in which next year's measures will be carried out and of the aspects that the government takes into account above all else. Some of these are: The regrouping of incomes will have to be carried out in such a way that the incomes and the expenditures will come into harmony. The national economic balance, a very important aspect, continues to be kept in view. Last but not least, the budget institutions and the capital stocks must be able to perform their fundamental tasks.

After this, Dr Istvan Hetenyi continued his introductory speech:

[Begin Hetenyi recording] Eighty-three percent of the budgetary income comes from enterprises and cooperatives, and the level of these payments will be 4 to 5 percent higher than this year. Seven percent of the budgetary income comes from the population. This consists of taxes, dues, and pension contributions. Payments by the population will increase by 11 percent.

Turning to the expenses, 10 percent of the expenses serves accumulation; their sum total will remain at this year's level. Expenses of budgetary establishments will grow by almost 5 percent and social security expenses by 11 percent. Contrary to the practice so far, we shall decrease donations to producers and for consumers goods. These donations will still constitute 25 percent of the total of budgetary expenses. This year, these donations amount to 160 billion forints. We wish to decrease this to 142 billion forints next year. The measures cannot be intermittent; they must be part of the structural change and harmonize with the general requirements of the living standard. Circumspection cannot mean the postponement of mature measures.

The extraordinary weather this year justifies special attention to agriculture. The year's rainfall was 120-200 mm lower than average; the draught has caused significant losses in grain production. The good labor of those working in agriculture plays a significant role in mitigating the damage caused by drought. The continuity of production has been helped also by central measures. These measures contributed to the foundation of next year's harvest.

As a result of the weather, the financial situation of large factories is more differentiated than before. The situation is significantly better in the trans-Danubian region [western Hungary]. Financial problems are concentrated in the drought-stricken counties of the great Hungarian plain. In spite of the problems, the agricultural goods supply remains undisturbed. Moreover, in certain products, oversupply causes problems for the producers. Now we concentrate our attention on creating the preconditions for next year's harvest, because we expect a high level of production, similar to that of 1982.

Honored National Assembly, 53 percent of the budgetary expenses consists of the expenses of the institutions and of social security. In spite of the hard conditions, the planned expenses will contribute to the improvement of living conditions and to the fulfillment of the multisided state obligations. Next year, the social security supply will continue to be the most dynamic part of the budgetary expenses. These expenses will reach 119 billion forints. These expenses will grow by 9 percent as a result of the growth in the number of pensioners, the higher pensions for the recently retired, the yearly regular raise in pensions, and this year's measures increasing family allowances and certain pensions. In defense of the purchasing power of low pensions and of family allowances, we are going to introduce further measures.

Honored National Assembly, the provisions of the 1984 budget will enable our country to follow an economic policy that will be supported by all citizens agreeing with the building of socialism and will contribute to maintain our international prestige. Its realization will demand great efforts -- in some cases, even sacrifices by economic organizations and citizens. The process of democratization of the society and the development of economic management demand initiative and active behavior from citizens, enterprises, and councils. The experience of recent years shows that the strengthening of the balance of our economy and its improvement need continuous, multisided, and creative activity. At the forum of the National Assembly, I request the creative contribution of workers, peasants, and intellectuals in the interest of the realization of our common aims. I ask the honored National Assembly to discuss and accept the presented draft. [end recording]

Further on Economic Report

LD230801 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Following the reply given by Minister Dr Imre Markoja, the National Assembly unanimously approved the new electoral law, together with the amendments of the legal committee. Afterwards, Finance Minister Istvan Hetenyi submitted to the legislators the draft budget for 1984.

[Begin Hetenyi recording] In my speech I would like to speak, first and foremost, about the tasks facing us in the state's financial work. All the signs indicate that the tense international atmosphere, the worsened East-West relations, the world economy, which continues to remain unstable and is struggling with problems, and the common problems of the CEMA countries will also pose in 1984 major and serious conditions for economic work. In some respects, they will pose even greater insecurity than before. The well-known international conditions and our national interests compel us to continue to intensify our efforts for peace, contribute to the strengthening of the cohesion of the community of socialist countries, meet our collective defense interests, as undertaken in the Warsaw Pact, and strengthen, by increasing economic output, our internal political position and the international prestige of our country.

In determining our economic tasks for next year we start out from the economic political requirement which has been constant and basically unaltered for a good 5 years now, the essence of which is the maintenance of our solvency, and the defense of our attained achievements. We can put our activity ever more perceptibly into the service of these things. The results speak for themselves. At the same time it cannot be denied that we have to carry this policy to success along a rugged path. A few years ago, when the targets were set, we counted on more favorable international conditions, and in one or two regards on fewer domestic difficulties.

It is a very considerable achievement of our economy this year that even in 1983 we retained the country's international solvency. It was possible to raise exports significantly and to keep imports at a moderate level. The positive balance of foreign trade continued to grow. We have continued to maintain the level developed so far of the population's real income and consumption. Consumer prices developed within the planned limits. We are fulfilling the plan for housing, general school, and hospital construction.

The budget takings and expenditures are also developing according to plan in broad outline. What is more, it may be that this year's budget deficit will be smaller than that which was approved.

However, we can also see the weak points. The improvement in the foreign trade balance has not reached in full what was planned for this year. It is not only external conditions that have contributed to this but also the inadequate improvement in our export capability. Management work has not succeeded in every respect in coordinating results and in distributing incomes in accordance with the strict requirements laid down in the plan. The domestic consumption, above all the investments, goes well beyond that planned. [end recording]

After outlining this year's experiences, the minister went on to deal with the tasks and possibilities for next year.

[Begin Hetenyi recording] The domestic utilization of the national income -- at comparative prices -- will be smaller than this year and can only increase by 5 percent at current prices. This is because the maintenance of our solvency requires that we increase the foreign trade surplus by at least 15 billion forints next year. Only in this way can we meet our interest payment and outstanding repayment commitments. Our greatest task remains to increase exports. However, increased attention should be paid also to the economical utilization of imported materials and fuels because what can be planned as a realistic and sensible rate of increase in exports does not make it possible for us to increase the volume of imports. The increase of exports requires greater attention from the very first day and very first week of the year because any possible lag would be very difficult to make up at a later time.

We expect enterprises and cooperatives to create the necessary products, seek out export possibilities, and sell their products as advantageously as possible. We will continue to provide conditions for the population's real income and consumption to attain this year's level. We will maintain these levels. The population's money receipts will grow by 8 percent; the consumer price level will rise by 7 to 8 percent.

The wage rises will be smaller than the rise of total money receipts; on the other hand, social security spending and welfare benefits will grow much faster than these. The fact that we are also planning central price measures -- to maintain the balance of purchasing power and stock funds, avoid the separation of market and official prices, and reduce consumer price supplements -- also plays a role in the planned development of the price level.

The income and consumption of the population can only reach this year's level if we further moderate investments next year. We have had to reach this conclusion in spite of the fact that we can see the problems that arise out of this. We can also see the problems in the regeneration of the production structure and the lasting tensions that appear in the infrastructure. In spite of all that, we have had to decide in favor of a reduction because there is no way or reason for us to abandon either of our two fundamental objectives. There are enough opportunities and resources in the economy for efficiency to improve, at the level of planned investments, until investments can once again be increased. [end recording]

Afterwards Istvan Hetenyi outlined in detail the budget figures. I think that those who are interested in this can examine the data much more easily in the newspapers. The minister also spoke in detail about the regulators and again, if you will forgive me, I believe that you can follow this with greater ease by reading the papers. Let me, rather, play a recording of another subject of the speech that, even if it is not an evergreen topic, it is certainly a recurrent one. You will also hear more rigorous conclusions.

[Begin Hetenyi recording] This year, too, I must speak about the loss-causing, inefficient or barely efficient enterprises and about this kind of economic management in general. This is because the oft-mentioned structural changes are needed primarily in these places. This question cannot be glossed over by reference to the tough economic conditions. It is our experience that enterprises can adapt themselves step by step to the greater demands if they are resolute enough and have a determined program.

Only a small number of enterprises are incapable of that. Some enterprises are struggling with the difficulties of the structural crisis felt throughout the world and with the lasting recession. Wherever that is the case, the government is prepared to intervene and provide support, and we have established a special fund for this. However, in the majority of cases, the situation is different. In several cases, for instance, lack of funds or the lasting low-level utilization of capacity is caused by development based on insufficient knowledge of the markets. In other words, it is not the existence of management itself -- as is sometimes claimed -- that leads to economic difficulties, but incorrect or inadequately prepared decisions. For this reason, it is justified that we demand at these enterprises the submission of programs that provide suitable guarantees of renewal. There is no opportunity for providing lasting support to enterprises that do not hold out the promise of renewal. [end recording]

After this, let us hear about our daily bread.

[Begin Hetenyi recording] The extraordinary weather this year justifies special attention to agriculture. The year's rainfall was 120-200 mm lower than average; the drought has caused significant losses in grain production. The good labor of those working in agriculture plays a significant role in mitigating the damage caused by drought. The continuity of production has been helped also by central measures. These measures contributed to the foundation of next year's harvest. As a result of the weather, the financial situation of large factories is more differentiated than before. The situation is signifidantly better in the trans-Danubian region [western Hungary]. Financial problems are concentrated in the drought-stricken counties of the great Hungarian plain. In spite of the problems, the agricultural goods supply remains undisturbed. Moreover, in certain products, oversupply causes problems for the producers. Now we turn our attention to creating the preconditions for next year's harvest, because we expect a high level of production, similar to that of 1982.

We are now turning our attention to creating the preconditions for next year's harvest. This is because next year we expect high-standard production roughly in line with that of 1982.

The work of regulation, first and foremost; the changes in the prices and support systems will assist next year in some way the modification of the production structure in the desired direction. We are counterbalancing the real increases in costs and some production support that has been given only up to now by increasing by 4.4 percent on average the procurement prices, reducing income tax by 20 percent, and by abolishing the compulsory reserve fund. [end recording]

Finally, we quote from Minister Hetenyi's speech a few statements referring to the social insurance and welfare institutional provisions which directly affect the majority of citizens.

[Begin Hetenyi recording] Next year the social security provisions will continue to be the most dynamic part of budgetary expenditures. These expenses will reach 119 billion forints. They will grow by 9 percent as a result of the growth in the number of pensioners, of the higher pensions for the recently retired and of the yearly regular rise in pensions as well as this year's measures increasing family allowances and certain pensions. To protect the purchasing power of low pensions and family allowances, we will introduce further measures.

We are determining the expenditure of budgetary institutions by making a rigorous list of priorities and by bearing in mind the priority of basic provisions, primarily general schooling and public health. The bulk of basic provisions is organized and financed by the councils. The carrying out of these tasks depends largely on them, besides the money that is available. In this sphere the councils are thinking, and they are managing their resources in a responsible way. Without their activities -- and this also includes the mobilization of social forces -- we could not have achieved these results. It is up to the councils to continue to include in the future all forces that can be mobilized for the carrying out of communal tasks. At the same time it is to be stressed that the inclusion of the resources of the population requires extremely careful and responsible consideration and can only be based on winning over those involved.

The improvement of living conditions also necessitates the carrying out of tasks in which the enormous expenditure may often not be directly felt by the large majority of the population but is a vital issue for those involved. The provision of safe drinking water is one of these issues. The government has dealt with this question recently and good-quality drinking water is to be provided in 1984 at 90 more settlements currently with unsuitable water supplies.

Housing construction remains one of our tense social problems and outstanding tasks. Experiences of practical implementation of the new housing management regulations are favorable. In spite of decrease in the state's financial means for housing construction, councils have speeded up and improved the preparation of land for housing, the provision of land, and all conditions exist to ensure that the planned 70-74,000 dwellings are constructed next year. [end recording]

Istvan Hetenyi asked the legislators to debate and approve the draft budget. Deputy Imre Hajmer, summing up the debates of the National Assembly standing committees, recommended to his fellow deputies on behalf of the budget committee that they approve the draft without any modifications. He outlined the comments and suggestions made at committee meetings.

In the debate on the draft budget, Istvan Szabo, chairman of the National Council of Agricultural Cooperatives and deputy for Hajdu-Bihar County, said that, according to the interest-representation forums of the cooperatives, a different plan, earmarking greater internal consumption, could not have been prepared in the present conditions.

Istvan Stadinger, deputy chairman of Budapest City Council, spoke among other things about the importance of modernizing the regulations concerning the council's economic activity. After all, it depends to a great extent on the income of councils how much we can spend on public expenditure, namely, health care, schools, public institutions and many other things.

A total of 11 deputies spoke in the debate on the budget. The debate is to continue in the National Assembly tomorrow.

BRIEFS

COAL-MINE DEVELOPMENT -- A speed up in development of Mecsek area coal mines is planned. The main task for 1984 is to complete design work on a gigantic 3.2-km-long and 1-km-deep inclined slope which will collect coal, through an underground network, from all collieries of the Mecsek area and bring it to the surface on a conveyor belt, to a point near Pecs. All the collieries, which currently work in isolation, will form a single network. If the plans are successful, the annual production target of 900,000 metric tons of coking coal originally planned for 1993 can be achieved by 1991 under the Lias program. This year's tasks include introduction of new mining technologies, such as the so-called "Mecsek-shield", developed in Hungarian-British cooperation, which is adapted to local geological conditions and is to begin operating in the Kossuth colliery in 1984. Increasing mechanization, even in the extremely difficult geological conditions in the Mecsek area, is vitally important, because it appears impossible that enough miners can be recruited to overcome the current labor shortage. Miners are to be helped by a 3.5 percent wage rise in 1984, which is above the national average for industry. [Summary] [Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 4 Jan 84 LD]

NEW CZECH BORDER-CROSSING -- A new border-crossing point for road traffic has opened at Vamosszabadi on the Hungarian-Czechoslovak frontier. It took 2 years to complete the project, and in the meanwhile roads leading to it and nearby bridges on the Danube have been modernized. Hungarian and Czechoslovak border guards are working together at the border-crossing station. Private cars are received in a covered area, and there is a separate lane for trucks and buses. [Text] [Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 2 Jan 84 LD]

SEJM COMMISSION DISCUSSES FRG RELATIONS

LD041931 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] The Sejm Commission For Foreign Affairs has discussed the present state of relations with the FRG and the prospects of continuing the process of normalization. The deputies stated that the FRG Government, which decided to deploy Euromissiles on its territory, bears particular responsibility for the deterioration of the political climate on our continent, including relations between Poland and the FRG. The commission stated that readiness of the Polish side to continue the process of normalization has met since 1981 with a negative response in Bonn. Recently, Warsaw noted political signals coming from Bonn that declare readiness for dialogue and normalization of mutual relations. On the other hand, however, the statements by some official representatives of the FRG still come forward with revisionist legal standpoints, which are contradictory to the agreement signed in 1970.

URBAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 4 JANUARY

Remarks on Domestic Affairs

LD041526 Warsaw PAP in English 1425 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Warsaw, 4 Jan -- At a news conference for foreign journalists today, the Government's Spokesman Minister Jerzy Urban ruled out a possibility of a meeting between Prime Minister Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski and Lech Walesa which may presumably be proposed in Lech Walesa's letter to the Prime minister. "I haven't checked in the government letters office if the letter has arrived already, but if Mr. Walesa says he has sent it, it has certainly come or will come," said the minister.

The government's spokesman said 1,120 persons in all came out of hiding under the amnesty, including 411 persons who reported between Nov 1 - Dec 31, 1983.

Referring to the envisaged meeting between prime minister, Gen. Wocjiech Jaruzelski and the Polish Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp, Minister Urban said the topics of the meeting are difficult to predict.

As to the information by Secretary of the Polish Episcopate Archbishop Dabrowski, concerning talks on eleven "KOR" [Social Self-Defense Committee] and "Solidarity" activists now in jail, the government's spokesman said "The authorities are open to humanitarian forms of solving the conflicts which shook Poland in recent years. Whether this good will bear fruit depends not only on the prosecutors and judicial authorities."

Answering a question how the government now estimates the numerical strength of the underground in Poland, Minister Urban said: "If one considers the underground to be persons living on an illegal footing, their number is markedly below 100". The spokesman added that the fact that 1,120 people had reported to the authorities till the end of 1983 had markedly weakened the potential of the underground's activity. As a result, the underground leaders are now "generals without an army."

Rejects FRG Claims

LD042021 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Excerpt] At the Interpress Center today, Minister Jerzy Urban, government press spokesman, held a meeting with foreign journalists.

He also spoke about social consultations on the price rises, participation of the trade union organizations in this process, and matters connected with the activity of persons and groups in the opposition.

Jerzy Urban also adopted an official stance toward the revanchist statements by Federal Minister Mertes, who spoke in the Bundestag on the alleged mass of Germans living in our country.

[Begin Urban recording] I would like to say that these claims connected with the concept of citizenship that exists in the FRG are rejected by the Polish Government. It does not recognize this legislation. It considers these claims connected with citizenship as a violation of the 1970 agreements and as a (?negation) of the entire European structure, since these claims conceal a negation of Poland's sovereignty in these territories. Moreover, in the Polish community -- I do not often quote the Polish community since I speak on behalf of the government, which I represent, and I try to closely observe this rule, but this time I can surely (?say) with a clear conscience -- all those who had German citizenship before the end of 1937, or who acquired this citizenship during the occupation on the basis of the Volksliste, are considered German or even FRG citizens.

The associations that exist here within the Polish community are fairly self-evident since during the occupation the Hitlerite forces of occupation decided who was a German, just as they decided who was a Jew [words indistinct]

This new -- formerly unencountered at government level -- trend clashes very much with the declarations expressed by some representatives of the state authorities of the FRG concerning a desire for an improvement in relations with Poland. They do not create a good basis for this. [end recording]

JUSTICE MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON AMNESTY

LD041407 Warsaw Domestic Television Service in Polish 2126 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Interview with Justice Minister Lech Domeradzki by correspondent Grzegorz Dziemidowicz; time and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Dziemidowicz] Mr Minister, how many political prisoners are there in Poland?

[Domeradzki] You mean persons convicted for antistate activities, do you?

[Dziemidowicz] Yes, precisely.

[Domeradzki] At present there are 45 persons convicted for antistate activities who are in prisons and under arrest.

[Dziemidowicz] I am sure that you are aware of the opinion, which incidentally I personally share, that this is 45 persons too many.

[Domeradzki] I believe that the majority of the public, and you, too, undoubtedly, and myself, would like no antistate activities, thus, no persons would be imprisoned for antistate activities. However, this does not depend on us. This depends on them to a large extent.

[Dziemidowcz] Let's talk about the amnesty a little then. The second phase, the second part of the amnesty came to an end with the close of last year, 1983. The Amnesty Law was comprised of two parts, as it were. The amnesty was extended. Do you think this extension was wise? Was it worth it?

[Domeradzki] Of course, I am deeply convinced that the Sejm did a very good thing when it extended the possibility of coming into the open to the end of 1983. You see, during the first phase, as you put it, when the Amnesty Law was in force until 31 October fewer than 700 persons came forward. Before the end of 1983 a little more than 1,000 came out. If you compare the two figures, you will see that the extension of the amnesty was very useful and purposeful. You could take this kind of reasoning further and you could say that the number of persons who we'll have to look for is smaller by the number of people who have come forward.

[Dziemidowicz] Often we use the term to benefit from the amnesty. It seems to me, however, that it was an opportunity both for those to whom the Amnesty law was directed and for the authorities who were able to present themselves as strong, wise, and sure of their ways of thinking. In a work, it was a chance for certain mental comfort which we all miss so much.

[Domeradzki] Yes, without any doubt. After all, there was a need to end the period of martial law with an act which, on the one hand, would be an act of goodwill on the part of the authorities, but on the other hand, would be an act of encouragement for all those who want to cooperate with the authorities in order to advance the implementation of the principles of socialism. The Amnesty Law was an act of this kind, double in its nature, as it were.

JARUZELSKI RECEIVES CSCE ENVOY, FILMMAKERS

Meets CSCE Delegation Leader

LD041615 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1500 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] General Wojciech Jaruzelski today received Ambassador Wlodzimierz Konarski who is heading the Polish delegation to the conference on confidence- and security-building measures and disarmament in Europe that is to start on 17 January in Stockholm. Poland's positions on international problems were discussed, especially in the sphere of our efforts to counteract threats to peace in Europe.

Meets Leaders of Filmmakers

LD042221 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1850 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski has received the leadership of the Association of Polish Filmmakers: Chairman of the main board Janusz Majewski and members of the Presidium Jerzy Kawalerowicz, Tadeusz Chmielewski, Jerzy Hoffman, Marek Nowicki, and Ryszard Koniczek. The representatives of the leadership of the association briefed Wojciech Jaruzelski on the situation and expectations of the milieu of filmmakers, and with the socioeconomic, organizational, and legal conditions of carrying out the profession. The significance of respecting creative freedom and difficulties in making and disseminating films, especially the decrease in the number of films, was pointed out. The will expressed by the congress of the association to cooperate with the authorities in the interest of developing national culture and cinematography was confirmed.

Wojciech Jaruzelski positively assessed the contribution by the Association of Polish Filmmakers Congress in shaping civic attitudes of film milieu and the efforts by the decisive majority of cinematography workers to keep continuity in film production, even in the most difficult period. Wojciech Jaruzelski stressed that the Polish film industry has full possibilities to rebuild its social and artistic position. Waldemar Swirgon, Mieczyslaw Rakowski, and Kazimierz Zygulski took part in the meeting.

SUNDIC ON U.S.-USSR DIALOGUE, STOCKHOLM MEETING

U.S.-USSR Dialogue

LD311620 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Milika Sundic commentary]

[Text] Not since the end of World War II has the world been as concerned for the fate of peace as it is now on the threshold of 1984. Never has this disagreeable fact been less contested in either the East or the West, and never have the great powers done less to change the existing situation in the world for the better. The nonaligned countries did everything to prevent or alleviate the development of this situation, to persuade and compel the great powers to behave in a more sensible and responsible manner, but none of this had any significant effect on changing the existing state of international relations, which in the last few months of 1983 have become even worse. The blocs, frankly speaking, by adhering to their unacceptable logic, have contributed to bringing the world and world peace, as well as their mutual relations, to the brink of disaster.

The East and the West both maintain that they are in the right, that everything they do is of necessity, that the fault lies on the other side; but persistence in this right has brought world peace to a state of complete unrest. There is not a single country in the world that is not concerned for its future. They are all in one way or another affected by the policies of the blocs, because everything that the blocs have done recently affects their national security as well.

Yugoslavia is particularly disturbed by the situation in Europe and in its immediate vicinity in the Near and Middle East. The breakdown of the Soviet-American talks on Euromissiles and the freeze in the talks on the reduction of strategic nuclear weapons -- and this at a time when there are virtually no prospects for the revival of the Soviet-American dialogue in the near future -- is a problem not only for Europe but also for the entire world. It is by no means by chance that we are placing emphasis on the European military-political scene. Europe has seen many wars that extended beyond the boundaries of the old continent. Abutting on the inflammable area of the Middle East, Europe, because of all that is happening in that part of the world, is itself in danger of getting caught up in the maelstrom of a dangerous bloc confrontation. American Pershing and cruise missiles are already in Europe, and in reply to this the Soviet Union has set about the installation of operational-tactical missiles in the GDR and Czechoslovakia. There is increasing evidence that Bulgaria, too, will be drawn into the missile circle of Soviet-American confrontation, which would pose a serious threat to the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

In mid-January the conference on disarmament and confidence-building measures in Europe begins in Stockholm. This will be the only place where it will be possible to talk about disarmament and confidence in Europe, but everything that has been happening recently on European soil, and particularly in Soviet-American relations, leads us to conclude that the Stockholm conference will not change the existing state of relations between the two blocs.

There is a justifiable fear that the situation in the world will be incomparably more difficult and exacerbated in 1984 than it was in the previous year. The nonaligned and neutral countries in Europe are making great efforts to prevent this, but the success of these efforts primarily depends on whether and to what extent the military blocs and two superpowers will realize that the present exacerbated situation and the arms race are as dangerous for them, too, as they are for all countries.

Owing to the fact that it has good and developed relations with all the great powers, that it is in constant contact with them, and to its great respect and activity in the nonaligned movement, Yugoslavia will try to contribute to the relaxation of tension in Europe and the world. Yugoslavia advocates a resumption of the Soviet-American dialogue as soon as possible. A resolution to this effect was also adopted a while ago by the UN General Assembly without a single vote of dissent. Finally, the importance and influence of the peace and antimissile movement in the world, which does not accept the continuation along the dangerous path that the military blocs have taken, should not be underestimated. Nevertheless, despite all these efforts, the world justifiably fears much of what 1984 could bring.

Shultz-Gromyko Meeting

LD011958 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] From tension to a relaxation of tension even of modest dimensions represents mankind's aspiration, which should not be understood merely as a New Year's wish or as temporary hope. Chroniclers have not yet finished last year's balance sheets and commentators -- including our journalist Milika Sundic -- have also found a rare bright spot at the beginning of 1984. This is the agreement between the U.S. and USSR foreign ministers -- Gromyko and Shultz -- to meet in Stockholm on 18 January at the conference on disarmament and trust-building measures in Europe. This is the only encouraging sign that something could change for the better in the relations between the two superpowers, although no great change in their bilateral relations should be expected, our foreign political commentator stresses:

[Sundic] Washington and Moscow have, so to say, agreed at the last minute that their foreign ministers -- Shultz and Gromyko -- should meet in Stockholm on 18 January at the conference on disarmament and trust-building measures in Europe. The meeting of the two ministers is hardly going to change anything in the relations between the two superpowers, but the news of their forthcoming meeting nevertheless represents a certain relief in the current difficult and very dangerous international situation, which has shaken world peace and, in particular, the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States to their very foundations.

Washington has on several occasions recently expressed the desire for Soviet-American contacts to be resumed. True enough, emphasis has been laid on the renewal of talks on Euromissiles and on unfreezing the talks on strategic nuclear arms reduction. However, there have been no indications whatsoever in this respect from Moscow. Moreover, the question has even been raised as to whether Andrey Gromyko would even attend the Stockholm conference. The agreement on the meeting between Gromyko and Shultz was, in all likelihood, not reached overnight. This is merely a proof of the two superpowers nevertheless bearing in mind, even at times when their relations are extremely dramatic, not to close all doors on direct contacts. This was also the case this time. Channels for reaching bilateral agreement have not failed, although all the forecasts have been indicating that Moscow is no longer counting on any serious dialogue with the Reagan administration. True, Moscow has been constantly repeating that it is in favor of dialogue with the West and the United States, but not under conditions imposed by the Western military alliance. This is also stated in the appeal by the Supreme Soviet before the end of 1983.

Gromyko and Shultz met last in Madrid, but that meeting was assessed by Shultz as unsuccessful because -- as he declared on that occasion -- Gromyko had not provided satisfactory explanations in connection with the downing of the South Korean passenger aircraft in the Soviet Far East. Since the Madrid meeting much has changed, but for the worse: the Geneva talks on Euromissiles have been broken off and the strategic nuclear arms reduction talks frozen. The Soviet Union decided on such a move because the deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles had already started in Western Europe and had been followed by Warsaw Pact countermeasures.

Not one of these hot subjects will be bypassed at the meeting in Stockholm, but as agreement has already been reached concerning Gromyko and Shultz meeting in Stockholm, the question that logically arises is: What will the outcome of this meeting be since this cannot, after all, be a mere passing meeting at a time of a dangerous worsening of the international situation and of extreme tension in USSR-U.S. relations. If the two ministers agree on the assessment of the current international situation and if they demonstrate at least minimum readiness that something should be done in the direction of halting the arms race, this would be enough to render the appearance of the world in 1984 less black than it is at the beginning of this year. In any case, the agreement by the two superpowers that their ministers should meet in Stockholm deserves to be welcomed as a small sign of certain encouragement that even in the most difficult situations a way out of the current impasse could be sought.

UNEMPLOYMENT, WORK PROBLEMS IN EAST, WEST VIEWED

AU301625 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Dec 83 p 3

[Permanent correspondent Slavoljub Djukic report]

[Text] Prague, 27 Dec -- The identity papers in the CSSR have one's workplace entered on them. This is undoubtedly done to ease identification. It has been asserted that it confirms that an adult lives from his work.

When we asked at the Ministry of Social Affairs whether there are any unemployed in the CSSR, we received an affirmative reply: "There are, but this is a problem of the services that deal with crime." What they wanted to say is that work is not only a right but also an obligation.

In the propaganda war between the two systems, the West talks with pleasure about civil rights and a high standard of living of those employed, and the East parades full employment and social security, pointing its finger from inside the camp at young people waiting for work. However, everybody at his different material level has his troubles and tries to find a happier solution without touching the foundations of the system.

Employed and Underemployed

Full employment means an elevated society, a social and moral act. But unless it emanates from social well-being it remains, above all, a political measure, which is yet to receive an economic justification, although from a human viewpoint it is certainly better to receive a small wage than none.

In East European societies there are practically no unemployed but many underemployed persons. According to international statistics, the gross national product in 1980 in the East amounted to $2.02 trillion for 375 million people, and in the EEC countries it amounted to $2.8 trillion for 265 million people.

The Hungarian economy in recent years has stood out as an example of vitality, but according to their own admission, as many as 1 million people out of 5 million employed are surplus. In Sofia recently, the militia was checking in stores to see who left work during the morning hours. Productivity in the GDR, whose economy is leading among the CEMA member countries, is lagging in some fields 30 percent behind its West German neighbor.

The CEMA member-countries suffer from a chronic shortage of labor. Researchers state, however, that the number of people rendered redundant because of technological advance amounts to as much as some 14 million people. Nobody has yet tried to establish, for instance, how much time is lost by a working person in the CEMA member-countries through waiting in lines and searching to find some goods desired, not to speak of the strain on the nerves. In the CSSR, for instance, where the market is relatively well supplied, it is necessary to stand in line even for goods that are in abundant supply here. It has become a part of life that is accepted by people. One sometimes thinks that lines are ordained by fate.

The East with good reason points to unemployment in some Western countries and describes the daily social situation. RUDE PRAVO has carried a photograph taken from the American press of a young man displaying a banner, "I am hungry! I want work." However, the bad sides of full employment are known here, although this is not spoken about in public, and it is attempted to solve a task that is not easy at all: to preserve social security but to ensure high efficiency. Is this possible considering the present reality and the relations in the economics of East European society?

One researcher wound up an exhausting discussion by saying: "We are pretending to work, and they are pretending to pay us well. We are getting low pay, and the planners are setting what they are paying for: a large volume of absenteeism and many shirkers."

Todor Zhivkov, head of the Bulgarian party, has put the same thought into his own words, posing the question: "Why are we treating labor frivolously in our country? Why is it underused? Machines are expensive, but labor is cheap." In language close to that of the public, Zhivkov concluded: "He who does not grasp this lesson is not all there."

The state guarantees employment, but not pay sufficient to satisfy the higher requirements of people. On their part, the employed work as much as they are paid, more or less, which constantly causes a shortage of labor and at the same time makes it possible for people to find additional well-paid jobs. They make them calm and secure, for dismissal from work is almost unheard of, unless one gets into conflict with current policy.

Exhausting Contest

The West has more fear of unemployment than of nuclear war. The East has endured full employment, but it is losing the economic race and in this way is jeopardizing the vital requirements of society. To mitigate dissatisfaction, the West is making ever increasing social concessions. Forced to an exhausting contest for political prestige, system, and social requirements, the East strives to give up certain habits, and this is pushing it to the "merciless market" that it publicly abhors.

Full employment and high economic efficiency bringing material well-being are becoming, with few exceptions, an aim difficult to achieve anywhere in the world. There exist societies with high production and unemployment, and those with full employment and low productivity. The most difficult social situation, however, is when unemployment combines with an undeveloped economy, which is the fate of the majority of mankind.

The communist principle, "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs," seems to be accessible nowadays to the privileged strata in capitalism and socialism.

'SURGICAL INTERVENTION' NEEDED TO REMOVE LC 'ROT'

AU042052 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 3 Jan 84 p 6

[D. Becirovic report]

[Text] Zenica, 2 Jan -- "Encapsulation in our own regions or districts is our greatest ideological-political problem. And it is not the workers class that is responsible for this encapsulation because, considering its daily and historical interests, the workers class does not encapsulate itself. This is not in its nature. The workers class has no boundaries set by organizations of associated labor nor does it have any communal, regional, or republican, or even federal boundaries because it is linked with the world economy. It is the political structures that encapsulate the workers class within regions, and they do it in cooperation with the technocratic structures in economic organizations, the structures that are concerned for their communes, regions, or republics but less for Yugoslavia...," Hamdija Pozderac, president of the Central Committee of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC said at an expanded session of the Zenica Regional LC Intercommunal Conference last Friday.

The Logic Is Still Prevalent: Incur Debts, Somebody Will Repay Them

Pozderac believes that the "party morale of Communists, their discipline, and the party vision of the future have declined; that money has 'permeated' the minds of many Communists; and that a self-reproduction of certain groups alienated from the workers class, and an increase of incomes and wealth acquired without work have become noticeable." He thinks that the actions aimed at strengthening constitutionality and lawfulness are actions aimed simultaneously at developing self-management, implementing economic stabilization measures, and strengthening the authentic class interests and the basic values of our revolution.

He says: "At the 48th session of the Central Committee Presidium of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC, we did not want to start a 'witch hunt' in Bosnia-Hercegovina because the party does not need that, but rather we wanted to place the struggle for constitutionality and lawfulness in the service of establishing the power of the workers class."

Speaking about the consumer climate, Pozderac says: "The logic of 'incur debts, somebody will repay them' is still prevalent in our country. It is as a result of this logic that, since 1979, we have incurred foreign debts totaling over $20 billion. Some of the republics have incurred such large debts that their annual repayments now amount to $500 million at a time when their annual influx of foreign exchange moves in the range of $20 to $30 million. But someone must now repay these debts. We have moved toward centralizing a part of foreign exchange at the level of the country as a whole not because we previously lacked the solutions but because we have failed to carry them out. We now have been forced to do all this in order to be able to repay the debts. This is what must be the lesson of our experience: No one may incur debts unless he himself is able to repay them...."

Way Out of Difficulties Within Reach

Pointing out that the ways out of the difficulties are within our reach, Pozderac cited some examples in this republic:

"If in Bosnia-Hercegovina we increased the utilization of our production capacities by 1 percent, this would represent a gain of 1.3 billion old dinars. If we introduced two or three work shifts instead of one and one-half, we could employ in the economy an additional 70,000 workers, that is, more than half of the currently unemployed workers in Bosnia-Hercegovina. In the timber industry alone, where we have large capacities and products highly demanded, we could employ an additional 17,000 workers. All this could be done if the Communists stood up and acted and if they lifted up the workers class. Then we would be in a situation in which we could ask 'What price for Eldorado?' instead of being asked 'What price for you?'

"However, in the LC we have all sorts of rot which we can no longer cure but can only remove by surgical intervention. And I am in favor of that. If we reduced our LC of 2 million members to an LC of 1.5 or 1 million members who are great enthusiasts and fighters, then we would have a militant and united LC...

"Or, whenever the nomination of candidates for certain positions is involved, then those who impose themselves as candidates are frequently the individuals who have offended no one, who have no sins, who have no affairs behind them, who pass through the market place with 'greetings to all and sundry in all four directions,' and who, putting it simply, are opportunists. The LC must rid itself of those who seek shelter from work but do not work and who, in every situation, want to find themselves under a safe roof... There are many people who can hold various positions. It must become the practice in all of our relations that it is possible to discuss 10 or 15 individuals who could be representatives of an LC communal committee, an assembly, or of the SAWP. We should not consider it something troublesome when the advantages of someone are openly discussed but let this discussion be held in the communal committee and not in some informal groups because it has been learned that, in some communes, certain cadre commissions have been already formed and charged with proposing candidates..." Pozderac pointed out.

CKREBIC ON 'PROMINENT REVOLUTIONARIES' LEAVING LC

AU041953 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Dec 83 1-2 Jan 84 p 4

[Excerpts] "The next year will be difficult, just as this one. We have to be aware of the fact that the next several years will be difficult, but if we all exert efforts according to our abilities and equally endure difficulties, then the society will also find it easier to live through these years," Dusan Ckrebic, president of the Central Committee of the Serbia LC has said among other things in an interview carried in the New Year's issue of POLITIKA EKSPRES.

Asked about some expressions of bitter discontent, even among members of the Council of the Federation, and the fact that there are even some prominent revolutionaries who are leaving the LC, Dusan Ckrebic said:

"A real revolutionary does not leave the party, because by doing so he would betray himself. Everybody has the right to express his disagreement, his views, his anxiety, his ill disposition, his rage, but I would say that he must not leave the party. The revolutionaries in question also have greater possibilities than the other 'ordinary' LC members. Nevertheless, if they leave the LC, that means that deep within themselves they carry a germ of discontent; some of their unrealized personal ambitions, some vanity that certainly did not appear just at this moment. It has certainly existed before and has been smoldering since."

LEADERS SEND NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS TO CUBA

Spiljak Greetings

AU041654 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Dec 83 1-3 Jan 84 p 6

[Text] Belgrade -- On the occasion of National Day and the 25th anniversary of the Cuban revolution, Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, has sent, on behalf of the SFRY Presidency, a telegram to Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, expressing cordial greetings and best wishes for the prosperity of the friendly people of the nonaligned country.

Markovic Greetings

AU041653 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Dec 83 1-3 Jan 84 p 16

[Text] Belgrade -- On the occasion of the anniversary of the revolution victory and National Day of the Republic of Cuba, Dragoslav Markovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, has sent, on behalf of the LCY Central Committee Presidium and on his own behalf, a telegram to Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party [PCC] Central Committee and president of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, expressing cordial greetings and best wishes for new successes in the socialist building of the country and for the further prosperity of the friendly people of Cuba. The telegram also expresses the conviction that relations and cooperation between the LCY and the PCC and between the SFRY and the Republic of Cuba will continue to develop successfully for the benefit of our peoples, a strengthening of the Nonaligned Movement, peace, social progress, and socialism in the world.

Assembly President's Greetings

AU041655 Belgrade BORBA in Sero-Croatian 31 Dec 83 1-3 Jan 84 p 16

[Text] Belgrade -- On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Cuba, Vojo Srzentic, president of the SFRY Assembly, has sent greetings and best wishes to Flavio Pardo Bravo, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the people's government.

CORRECTION TO INTERVIEW WITH ADM MAMULA

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Mamula Discusses Military Preparedness, Needs," published in the 3 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT:

page I 16, seventh paragrah, line seven: ...that our military art does not sufficiently ....(supplying dropped word "art")

BRIEFS

OIL INDUSTRY REPORT -- Zagreb, 4 Jan (TANJUG) -- Last year Industrija Nafte [INA] processed 5.8 million tons of crude oil at its refineries. This was 23 percent below the planned level due to the reduction in oil imports from the convertible currency area, which amounted to 1,259,000 tons of crude oil, only 40 percent of the planned amount for last year. Output from domestic oilfields amounted to 2,860,000 tons, or four percent below plan. In the past year, INA also produced about 1.2 billion cubic meters of gas and 783,000 tons of fertilizer. INA also realized $174 million from exports of oil, petroleum derivatives, and petrochemical products. [Summary] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1405 GMT 4 Jan 84 LD]